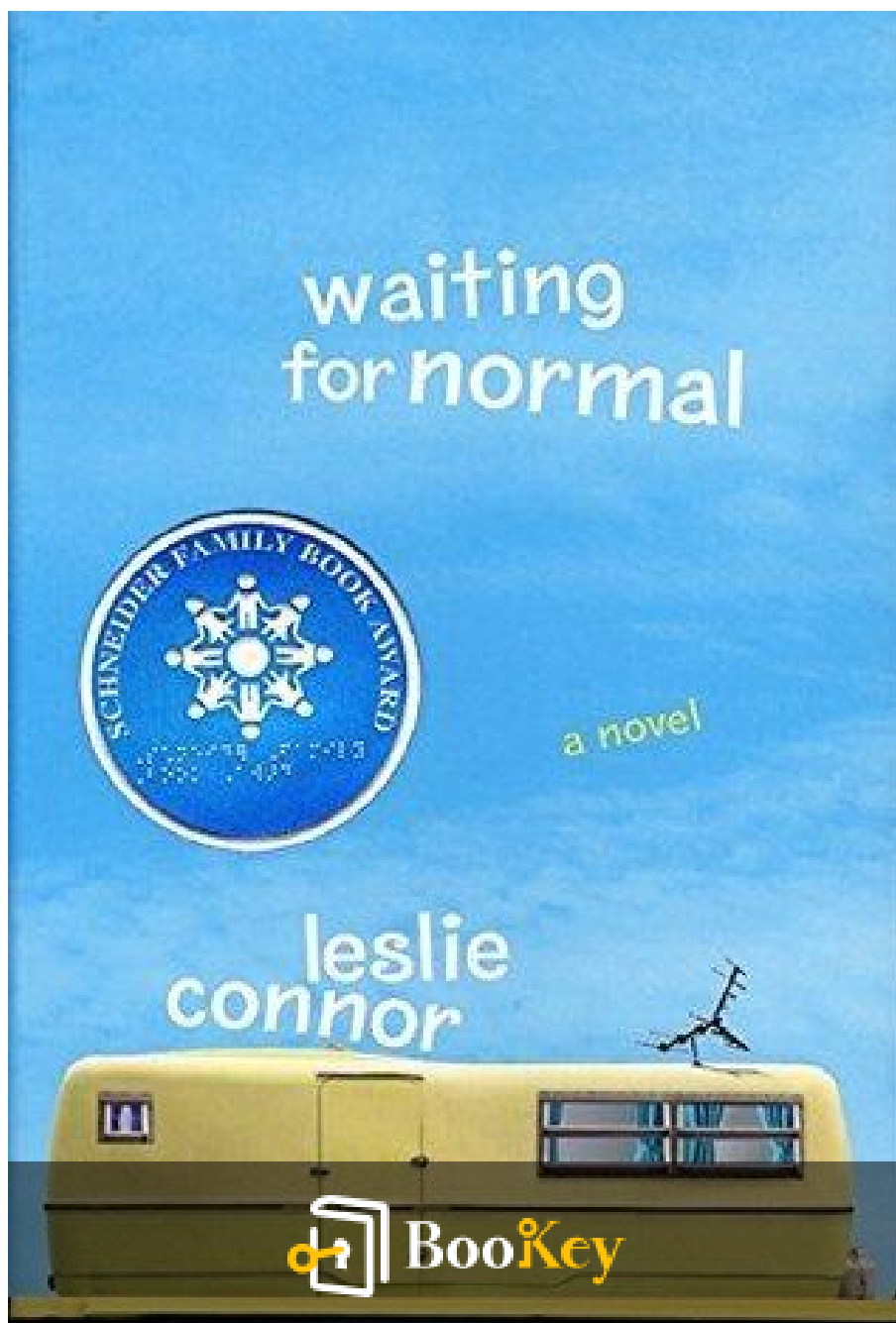


Waiting For Normal PDF (Limited Copy)

Leslie Connor



More Free Book



Scan to Download

Waiting For Normal Summary

Finding Hope Amid Chaos and Uncertainty.

Written by New York Central Park Page Turners Books Club

More Free Book



Scan to Download

About the book

In this poignant and uplifting novel, readers are introduced to young Addie, whose life unfolds against the backdrop of her mother's unpredictable bipolar disorder. This mental health condition leads Addie's mother to swing from periods of exuberant friendliness and indulgence, characterized by extravagant feasts, to times of stark deprivation, leaving their pantry nearly bare. The emotional turbulence of her home environment often leaves Addie feeling isolated and neglected, yearning for stability and a nurturing family dynamic.

Amidst these challenges, Addie finds solace in her dreams of a different life—one filled with the warmth of a conventional family with her half-sisters and stepfather. These relationships hint at a semblance of normality and security that she craves. Despite the storms of volatility within her household, Addie's unyielding hope and resilience shine through. Her longing for a true sense of belonging and love drives the narrative, inviting readers to reflect on essential themes such as familial bonds, the effects of mental illness, and the enduring strength of the human spirit.

As the story unfolds, Addie navigates the complexities of her relationship with her mother, grappling with both love and disappointment. This journey is not only about her search for a stable home but also about understanding and accepting her mother's struggles. Each chapter elucidates the delicate

More Free Book



Scan to Download

balance between despair and hope, showcasing Addie's inner strength as she strives to create a future where she can feel safe and cherished—a place to truly call home. Through Addie's eyes, readers are invited into a world where, despite chaos, the light of empathy, connection, and resilience endures.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

About the author

Leslie Connor's journey as an author began in the most unconventional setting—an antique farmhouse near Cleveland, Ohio, where she made her entrance into the world on the family room floor. This unique start mirrors her creative spirit, which blossomed in a vibrant neighborhood close to Schenectady, New York. Surrounded by the aromatic allure of fine printing papers, thanks to her father's profession, she developed an enduring love for literature that would guide her future endeavors.

Leslie's educational path reflects her diverse interests; she pursued an associate's degree in agriculture at SUNY Cobleskill—a nod to her connection to nature—and later earned a bachelor's degree in fine art from the University of Connecticut. Initially, she aimed to illustrate children's books, but an unexpected gift for storytelling revealed itself, steering her towards writing.

Currently, Leslie resides in the tranquil woods of Connecticut with her husband and three children, drawing inspiration from the simplicity of everyday life. Her home is shared with loyal dogs, who often accompany her during her creative process. When she isn't immersed in writing, Leslie enjoys nature walks, experimenting with artisan pizza recipes, and sharing delightfully casual meals with friends at a local diner. Through her experiences and passions, she crafts stories that resonate with readers of all

More Free Book



Scan to Download

ages, bringing her vibrant world to life on the page.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Ad



Try Bookey App to read 1000+ summary of world best books

Unlock 1000+ Titles, 80+ Topics

New titles added every week

- Brand
- Leadership & Collaboration
- Time Management
- Relationship & Communication
- Business Strategy
- Creativity
- Public
- Money & Investing
- Know Yourself
- Positive Psychology
- Entrepreneurship
- World History
- Parent-Child Communication
- Self-care
- Mind & Spirituality

Insights of world best books



Free Trial with Bookey

Summary Content List

Chapter 1: tin box on a tar patch

Chapter 2: small stuff

Chapter 3: welcome pie

Chapter 4: according to webster's

Chapter 5: the over-underpass

Chapter 6: a renovation

Chapter 7: tryouts and friendships

Chapter 8: gates and bridges

Chapter 9: tv and toast dinners

Chapter 10: a gift of cream and honey

Chapter 11: a bunch of numbskulls

Chapter 12: a violent storm

Chapter 13: evening interview

Chapter 14: waiting for mommers

Chapter 15: another dish of fish-and-chips

Chapter 16: a different sort of halloween

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 17: a phone call from the mansion

Chapter 18: the new blue car

Chapter 19: all or nothing

Chapter 20: dwight explaining hannah

Chapter 21: all about twos and fours

Chapter 22: bedtime at the inn

Chapter 23: breakfasts and boxes

Chapter 24: a ton of turkey soup

Chapter 25: from good to bad

Chapter 26: willing to bloom

Chapter 27: twists and turns

Chapter 28: the counting-on part

Chapter 29: a frozen good-bye

Chapter 30: an unexpected meeting

Chapter 31: a few gifts before christmas

Chapter 32: waiting for normal

Chapter 33: jingle all the way

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 34: another thing to borrow

Chapter 35: loads of snow

Chapter 36: a visit from grandio

Chapter 37: valentine hearts

Chapter 38: the goosh in my gut

Chapter 39: fiesta night

Chapter 40: making changes

Chapter 41: my fault

Chapter 42: a hero in the fog

Chapter 43: after the fire

Chapter 44: something familiar

Chapter 45: the going-away note

Chapter 46: defining normal

Chapter 47: full of surprises

Chapter 48: all to home

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 1 Summary: tin box on a tar patch

Chapter 1 Summary: A New Beginning

In the opening chapter of "Waiting for Normal," we are introduced to Addie, a young girl navigating significant changes in her life as she and her mother, Mommers, arrive at their new home—a dilapidated trailer in Schenectady, New York. This stark contrast to what they once had is startling for both of them, particularly for Mommers, who grapples with frustration and disappointment. The backstory reveals that Mommers has recently separated from Addie's stepfather, Dwight, who, despite the split, continues to be a source of support for Addie.

Conflict unfolds as Mommers vents her anger towards Dwight, blaming him for their current predicament and the unappealing living conditions. Addie learns that their choices are limited to this trailer or moving in with her estranged grandfather, whom Mommers detests. Throughout this heated exchange, Dwight maintains his composure, attempting to comfort Addie while silently enduring his ex-wife's frustration.

In a poignant moment that underscores the theme of family ties, Dwight bids farewell to Addie, promising to visit regularly with her half-sisters, Brynna and Katie. This interaction reinforces Addie's longing for connection and

More Free Book



Scan to Download

stability amidst the turmoil surrounding her.

The chapter concludes with Mommers in distress, revealing the emotional strain of their circumstances. As Addie discovers the trailer's key, it becomes a symbol of possibility and new beginnings, albeit in a challenging environment. Themes of family, resilience, and the quest for belonging are woven into the narrative, setting the tone for Addie's journey in the chapters to come.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 2 Summary: small stuff

In Chapter 2, titled "Small Stuff," we see Addie and her mother, Mommers, adjusting to life in their new trailer home. Addie has always felt at ease in small spaces, and with a mix of excitement and apprehension, she takes the key and approaches the trailer. As they arrive, an unexpected train rushes by, startling both of them and highlighting the chaos that often accompanies their lives.

Inside the trailer, Addie finds it surprisingly cozy, relishing the compact design as she navigates from room to room and discovers her bunk and a mini kitchen. In contrast, Mommers expresses her skepticism, humorously dubbing her bedroom a "Luxury Suite" due to its view of a laundromat. This playful banter between mother and daughter not only showcases their differing attitudes—Addie's hopeful optimism versus Mommers' cynicism—but also illustrates their close-knit yet complicated relationship.

As Addie prepares dinner, crafting a simple meal of macaroni and cheese with peas, she reflects on the disarray of their previous home life, particularly following the departure of Dwight, Mommers' partner. This moment underscores a broader theme of change and the struggle to adapt. Both Addie and Mommers are trying to carve out a sense of stability in their new, smaller existence.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

After dinner, while Mommers becomes engrossed in an online chat, Addie takes joy in tidying up their living space, embracing her new responsibilities. The sounds of the outside world, including the distant trains, provide a comforting backdrop, gradually becoming a part of her new normal.

As Addie settles into bed, memories of her sisters, Brynna and Katie, and the warmth of their former home surface, revealing her deep family bonds and a sense of longing. The chapter concludes with Addie adapting to the trailer life, showcasing her resilience and a hopeful perspective on the fresh journey that lies ahead, hinting at the potential for growth and new beginnings despite their challenges.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 3 Summary: welcome pie

In Chapter 3 of "Waiting for Normal," Addison Schmeeter embarks on her journey of adaptation in a new neighborhood. She begins by observing the peculiarities of her surroundings, particularly a deserted lot known as the "Empty Acre" which houses the old Big N store. This setting becomes a metaphor for her feelings of loneliness and the fresh start she seeks amidst the remnants of the past.

After her first day of school, Addison takes a stroll home and discovers the minimart, a small but lively store that captures her interest. This encounter serves as a pivotal moment in her transition, lasting impressions of curiosity and hope defined by her eagerness to engage with her new community.

Inside the minimart, Addison meets Soula, a vibrant woman with a penchant for floral dresses, and Elliot, the genial shopkeeper. Their warm, humorous interaction reveals Addison's personality as being observant and open-hearted. These new friendships evoke a sense of belonging, as Soula and Elliot extend their kindness by offering her a delightful treat called "Welcome Pie," symbolizing their acceptance and the community spirit that permeates the neighborhood.

This chapter emphasizes key themes such as community, belonging, and the comfort in simple, everyday interactions. As Addison navigates her new

More Free Book



Scan to Download

environment, her initial hesitations are softened by the kindness she receives, mapping out her journey toward finding normalcy and forging connections in her new life.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 4: according to webster's

Chapter 4 Summary

In this chapter, we explore the intricacies of Addison's life as she juggles the challenges of her home environment and school. The chapter opens with a pivotal interaction between Addison and her mother, Mommers, who expresses a grumpy disdain for Soula, a kind woman who owns a gas station nearby. Soula is not only a source of small comforts, like the apple pie pocket she gifted Addison, but represents a fleeting connection to normalcy that Addison craves.

Mommers is depicted in a disheveled state, having just woken up in the late afternoon, which reflects her struggles with daily life and hint at her broader issues with responsibility and stability. During their conversation about dinner plans, Mommers' indifference becomes clear, contrasting sharply with Addison's desire for routine and connection in their fractured family life. Mommers discourages Addison from spending time at the gas station, yet Addison's determination to visit Soula and her son Elliot underlines her yearning for friendship and support.

As Addison reflects on her family history, including the loss of her father and the repercussions of their current living situation in a trailer, the

More Free Book



Scan to Download

complexities of her life emerge. She grapples with feelings of disconnection, particularly from her sisters, Katie and Brynna, with whom she no longer lives. This sense of displacement further fuels her quest for stability.

Addison finds solace in her vocabulary notebook, a tool that Mommers,

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





Why Bookey is must have App for Book Lovers



30min Content

The deeper and clearer interpretation we provide, the better grasp of each title you have.



Text and Audio format

Absorb knowledge even in fragmented time.



Quiz

Check whether you have mastered what you just learned.



And more

Multiple Voices & fonts, Mind Map, Quotes, IdeaClips...

Free Trial with Bookey



Chapter 5 Summary: the over-underpass

Chapter 5: The Over Underpass

In this chapter, the narrator explores a multifaceted structure known as the Over Underpass, which serves as both an overpass and an underpass, offering a metaphor for perspective and perception. Accompanying the warm-hearted and eccentric Soula, the narrator learns about the troubled history of their surroundings, particularly a neglected brownfield tainted by industrial pollution. Soula's enthusiasm for local news is evident as she passionately shares clippings, although the narrator grapples with the challenge of reading.

The narrative introduces Dwight, a visiting father who brings his two daughters, Brynna and Katie, to spend a rainy Saturday with the narrator and Mommers, the narrator's nurturing yet protective mother. The cramped confines of their trailer reveal a heartfelt family dynamic, with Mommers striving to maintain closeness with her grandchildren amidst an underlying tension with Dwight regarding parenting styles and the government's role in family life.

As the rain subsides, Dwight proposes an outdoor adventure, prompting Mommers to voice her concerns about the yard's safety for the children.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

However, the girls find joy in playing with the remnants of the rain-soaked pavement, their laughter echoing in the air. Inspired by their energy, Dwight comes up with the exciting idea of building a swing at the Over Underpass. This endeavor ignites a shared project that fills the day with enthusiasm and reinforces bonds between them.

The construction of the swing evolves into a focal point of joy, showcasing Dwight's playful spirit and deep care for his daughters. His involvement fosters a sense of belonging for the narrator, who feels integrated into this makeshift family unit. The swing quickly becomes a cherished spot for Brynna and Katie, symbolizing not just childhood play but also the creation of meaningful connections in a world that can often seem overlooked.

Ultimately, this chapter beautifully weaves together themes of childhood joy, familial love, and the significance of community, all against the backdrop of a once-ignored environment. It balances moments of carefree fun with poignant reflections on history and resilience, capturing the essence of finding light and connection in challenging circumstances.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 6 Summary: a renovation

Chapter 6: A Renovation

In this chapter, the tension within Addie's family escalates as Dwight receives a renovation job in Lake George, a development that signals a challenging transition for them. Upon arriving home, Dwight's serious demeanor immediately raises the stakes, hinting at the difficult conversation he needs to have with Mommers. As the two step outside for a private discussion, Addie, filled with anxiety, watches from a distance through a small square window, feeling the weight of uncertainty settle on her shoulders.

The argument quickly intensifies, with Mommers accusing Dwight of wanting to take the girls away from her. Dwight, desperate and frustrated, argues that this job is essential for their financial stability and mentions that he has arranged good daycare for Brynna and Katie. The mere thought of being separated from her younger sisters crushes Addie's heart, amplifying her distress amid the rising conflict. As emotions reach a breaking point, a physical altercation ensues, breaking down the calm demeanor Dwight typically maintains. Although he soon apologizes, both he and Mommers find themselves in a fragile emotional state.



Later, Dwight attempts to ease Addie's fears by explaining that the renovation will involve transforming an old mansion into an inn, a project he finds genuinely exciting. Despite his reassurances and promises to visit often, the reality of potential separation looms heavily over them. As Addie wrestles with her feelings of fear and uncertainty, she resolves to support Dwight, demonstrating her love and maturity through a tight hug. This moment underlines their bond, encapsulated in a mix of hope and anxiety about the uncertain future.

This chapter effectively explores themes of family conflict and separation, highlighting Addie's resilience and love for her family as she navigates the emotional turmoil brought on by these changes. Her struggles resonate deeply, making the narrative's emotional landscape both relatable and poignant.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 7 Summary: tryouts and friendships

Chapter 7: Tryouts and Friendships

In this chapter, Addison grapples with anxiety as she prepares for her music tryout with Ms. Rivera, her music teacher. She finds comfort in the familiarity of the music, needing to listen to it multiple times to build her confidence. When the moment arrives, she successfully plays “The Witches’ Waltz,” impressing Ms. Rivera, who offers to supply her with sheet music in advance to aid her preparation. Although relieved by the positive feedback, Addison feels a twinge of guilt about the flute she has—an instrument she feels is “basically stolen.”

Upon leaving the classroom, Addison bumps into Robert, a notorious prankster known around school. He surprises her by discussing Stage Orchestra, a prestigious music group, and proudly shares that he has made it in playing the cello. Though Addison manages to mask her personal dislike for cellos, she sees the opportunity for herself in this ensemble.

Excited about her own tryout, Addison shares the news with her new friends, Marissa and Helena. Helena, who had participated in Stage Orchestra previously, encourages Addison by revealing that Ms. Rivera will announce acceptances by Halloween, instilling hope in her. However, Robert disrupts



the moment by teasing Helena for a conversation she had with the school nurse regarding personal hygiene. In a display of solidarity, Addison comes to Helena's defense, sharing her own embarrassing moments, which helps to alleviate Helena's discomfort. This act of camaraderie deepens their friendship as the two girls leave school together, laughing about the awkwardness of puberty.

As they walk down the street, still giggling, Helena expresses her sincere wish for Addison to succeed in joining Stage Orchestra, further motivating her. This heartfelt conversation not only strengthens their bond but also crystallizes Addison's aspiration to be a part of the orchestra, marking it as one of her new goals.

Throughout this chapter, themes of friendship, self-acceptance, and overcoming embarrassment emerge prominently. The support Addison offers to Helena, coupled with her own evolving sense of belonging amidst her new friendships, underscores the significance of camaraderie during the often tumultuous middle school experience.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 8: gates and bridges

In Chapter 8, titled "Gates and Bridges," the narrative centers on a light-hearted yet meaningful conversation between Cookie and Soula as they reminisce about Union College, humorously misnamed "Onion College." This playful exchange leads Soula to share her nostalgic memories of the beauty found in nature, particularly in Jackson's Garden, where blooming roses evoke her longing for tranquility and a better life away from the city's dangers.

As they work together stocking macaroni boxes in Soula's shop, Cookie becomes aware of her friend's ill health. Despite her Mommers' advice about respecting others' privacy regarding health, Cookie cannot help but feel concern for Soula. Their talk delves deeper, with Soula lamenting the wastefulness of their current environment, contrasting it with the simplistic yet healthier life Cookie's grumpy grandfather led on his farm.

The discussion shifts as Cookie articulates her belief that happiness is founded on more than just health; it is intertwined with having heroes—those who inspire courage and the willingness to take risks. Soula is fascinated by this concept, leading them to ponder the essence of heroism. Their conversation takes on a celebratory tone when Elliot joins in, and they share a playful thumbs-up, emphasizing the significance of heroes in their lives.



Through rich dialogues and warm connections, this chapter effectively explores the themes of aspiration, the quest for meaning, and the importance of relationships that nurture happiness, setting a reflective tone amidst the characters' interactions.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





Positive feedback

Sara Scholz

...tes after each book summary
...erstanding but also make the
...and engaging. Bookey has
...ling for me.

Fantastic!!!



I'm amazed by the variety of books and languages Bookey supports. It's not just an app, it's a gateway to global knowledge. Plus, earning points for charity is a big plus!

Masood El Toure

Fi



Ab
bo
to
my

José Botín

...ding habit
...o's design
...ual growth

Love it!



Bookey offers me time to go through the important parts of a book. It also gives me enough idea whether or not I should purchase the whole book version or not! It is easy to use!

Wonnie Tappkx

Time saver!



Bookey is my go-to app for summaries are concise, ins curated. It's like having acc right at my fingertips!

Awesome app!



I love audiobooks but don't always have time to listen to the entire book! bookey allows me to get a summary of the highlights of the book I'm interested in!!! What a great concept !!!highly recommended!

Rahul Malviya

Beautiful App



This app is a lifesaver for book lovers with busy schedules. The summaries are spot on, and the mind maps help reinforce wh I've learned. Highly recommend!

Alex Walk

Free Trial with Bookey

Chapter 9 Summary: tv and toast dinners

Chapter 9: TV and Toast Dinners

In this chapter, we delve into the turbulent daily life of Addison, affectionately known as Addie, and her mother, Mommers, highlighting their quest for normalcy amidst a backdrop of instability. The chapter begins with Addie asking about dinner, but Mommers, absorbed in her computer work, remains unresponsive. This interaction sets the tone for their unconventional home life, where routine often feels elusive.

Breakfast stands out as the sole meal that embodies a sense of normalcy for them, typically consisting of toast or cereal. Dinner, however, is a different matter, frequently reduced to variations of toast. Addie has creatively adapted this staple into a makeshift dinner, layering melted cheese and condensed soup, illustrating her resourcefulness in the face of their struggles to establish comfort and stability.

Despite these challenges, Mommers occasionally exhibits enthusiasm in the kitchen, reminiscing about happier times when she prepared elaborate meals, such as a summer Thanksgiving dinner. Unfortunately, her interest wanes on most evenings, leaving Addie to forage for food in their cramped mini kitchen, where she must make do with what little is available.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

As they sit down to eat, television becomes another source of distraction. Mommers immerses herself in her favorite show, “Jeanette for the Judgment,” which airs at dinnertime. The show's focus on conflict and sensational verdicts deeply unsettles Addie, who dislikes the negativity it embodies. Mommers, enthralled by the drama, even boasts that she could handle the show's host's role, highlighting her desire for control and validation in her own life.

Addie attempts to express her discomfort with the show's themes, but Mommers is oblivious to her daughter's concerns. Seeking solace from the tension and the relentless drama, Addie retreats to her bunk, humming her flute music to drown out the noise. This moment poignantly captures her yearning for escape and the emotional turmoil of their current circumstances.

Ultimately, this chapter underscores themes of familial instability, the search for normalcy, and the various coping mechanisms individuals adopt amidst challenging situations. As Addie and Mommers navigate their unconventional lives, the fragility of their bond is palpable, revealing both their struggles and resilience.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 10 Summary: a gift of cream and honey

Chapter 10 Summary: A Gift of Cream and Honey

In Chapter 10, Addie experiences a heartwarming reunion with her sisters, Brynna and Katie, who arrive with an exciting surprise from their father, Dwight. Their special gift is a hamster, which Addie joyfully names Piccolo. This new pet represents more than just an animal; it embodies the themes of family, love, and the small joys that can brighten life amid challenges.

The family's outing to Numbskull Dorry's diner is a welcome reprieve, offering a sense of normalcy as they gather around a table filled with laughter and shared meals. Mommers, Addie's unpredictable mother, adds a layer of tension and comedy to the atmosphere, making the moment simultaneously chaotic yet familiar. Addie cherishes this time, savoring both her food and the feeling of belonging that briefly envelops them.

As Dwight discusses potential future visits with Mommers, Addie senses the bittersweet nature of their time together. The affectionate goodbyes to her sisters linger in her mind as the trailer feels extra quiet in their absence, amplifying her feelings of loneliness.

Later, in her bunk, Addie finds solace in her new pet Piccolo, reflecting on

More Free Book



Scan to Download

the warmth and companionship he brings into her life. The chapter concludes with her soft whisper, “Welcome all to home,” revealing her deep yearning for connection and stability amidst the chaos that defines her existence. This moment captures the bittersweet yet hopeful essence of Addie's journey, highlighting her desire for a cohesive family life amid the fragility of her current situation.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 11 Summary: a bunch of numbskulls

Chapter 11: A Bunch of Numbskulls

In this chapter, the protagonist, Cookie, finds herself in the local minimart, where she uncovers a humorous gem: a newspaper clipping about the OverUnderpass decorated with graffiti proclaiming, “DORRY IS A NUMBSKULL.” Intrigued, Cookie strikes up a conversation with Soula, the minimart owner, who shares the amusing backstory of the graffiti phenomenon. Initially thought to be a mere prank, the phrase took on a life of its own as it was repeatedly spray-painted over, creating a humorous rivalry with the railroad.

As this conversation unfolds, Rick—the owner of Numbskull Dorry's pub—enters the store. Cookie playfully greets him with a jab, calling him a “numbskull,” leading to an entertaining exchange. Rick elaborates on the graffiti saga, revealing that the mastermind behind the antics was none other than Dorry’s sister. He reflects on how the unintended publicity from this escapade actually helped him launch his pub, asserting, “there’s no such thing as negative advertising,” which highlights his entrepreneurial mindset.

As their conversation progresses, Rick leaves a note for Elliot, whom he affectionately describes as his “best friend and sometimes hero.” This

More Free Book



Scan to Download

moment unveils a deeper layer of friendship that contrasts with the light-hearted tone of the chapter. Soula's encouragement of this bond exemplifies her supportive nature within the tight-knit community. The chapter successfully balances humor with insights into the dynamics of friendship, resilience, and the unexpected ways that relationships and stories weave together in their small town, reinforcing the theme of community connection amidst quirky circumstances.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 12: a violent storm

In Chapter 12, titled "A Violent Storm," the narrative delves into Addie's complex emotional landscape, interweaving her familial bonds with her mother, Mommers, and her friendships with Soula and Elliot. The chapter opens with a lighthearted moment: Addie and Mommers share a laugh over a playful incident with Addie's pet hamster, Piccolo, who delights in exploring a carved pumpkin. This joyful scene is contrasted by the underlying tension as Mommers reveals her anxieties about Addie's friendships, particularly with Soula and Elliot, hinting at her fears of Addie being accepted and valued by them.

When Addie arrives at the minimart, her initial anticipation quickly shifts to concern. Calling for Soula and Elliot, she finds Soula alone and visibly distressed in the bathroom, grappling with the harsh side effects of her chemotherapy treatment. Soula's vulnerability is laid bare as she appears frail and bald, a stark departure from her previously lively demeanor. Elliot's nurturing presence by Soula's side underscores their deep connection, as he supports her through this difficult moment.

As Soula slowly acknowledges Addie, she opens up about her cancer diagnosis, describing her struggle with illness as a "violent storm." This metaphor captures not only her physical pain but also the emotional turmoil that accompanies such a life-altering experience. The gravity of Soula's



situation weighs heavily on Addie, bringing back memories of sorrow tied to illness that she has faced in the past.

In a tender effort to uplift Soula's spirits, Addie introduces her to Piccolo. To Addie's delight, Soula finds a moment of joy in watching the little hamster, symbolizing a fleeting escape from her harsh reality. This simple act serves as an important reminder of resilience and the power of compassion, emphasizing that even in the darkest moments, connections and small gestures can offer comfort and light amidst the chaos of life's storms. The chapter thoughtfully illustrates themes of friendship, empathy, and the essential human capacity to support one another through adversity.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey

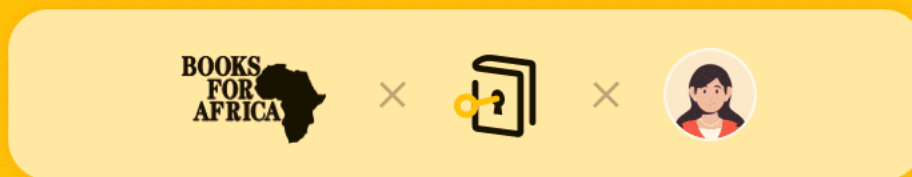




Read, Share, Empower

Finish Your Reading Challenge, Donate Books to African Children.

The Concept



This book donation activity is rolling out together with Books For Africa. We release this project because we share the same belief as BFA: For many children in Africa, the gift of books truly is a gift of hope.

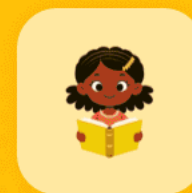
The Rule



Earn 100 points



Redeem a book



Donate to Africa

Your learning not only brings knowledge but also allows you to earn points for charitable causes! For every 100 points you earn, a book will be donated to Africa.

Free Trial with Bookey

Chapter 13 Summary: evening interview

In Chapter 13, titled "Evening Interview," we delve into the daily life of Addie and her mother, Mommers. The chapter opens in their cluttered home, symbolized by the remnants of pumpkin guts strewn about, which sets a chaotic backdrop for their interactions. Mommers is dressed sharply, her hair meticulously styled and free of her usual blue eye shadow, signaling her efforts to impress for an important job interview that is oddly scheduled for dinner time at a restaurant.

The urgency of Mommers' preparations hints at her anxiety about the meeting, particularly her reluctance to admit she lacks reliable transportation. This pressure reveals her desperation as she applies for a sales position, a role she appears genuinely enthusiastic about despite the chaos surrounding her.

As they talk, Addie, showing a blend of concern and youthful curiosity, inquires about Mommers' health, specifically addressing the importance of regular breast checks. This moment illuminates Addie's deep-seated worry for her mother's wellbeing. However, tension arises when Mommers, flustered, slips on the pumpkin mess and snaps at Addie for not cleaning it up, reflecting the strain in their interactions.

With Mommers off to her interview, Addie takes on the responsibility of

More Free Book



Scan to Download

cooking dinner. As she works, she sends out hopeful thoughts into the universe for her mother's success—wishing for her to catch the bus, enjoy her meal, and ace the interview. This longing for Mommers' safe return by midnight underscores Addie's desire for stability amidst the uncertainty that characterizes their lives.

The chapter intricately weaves together themes of hope and familial struggle, highlighting the complex relationship between Addie and Mommers. Their bond is marked by both love and tension, encapsulating the daily challenges they face while nurturing shared aspirations for a better future.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 14 Summary: waiting for mommers

In Chapter 14, titled "Waiting for Mommers," we delve into the emotional turmoil of **Addie**, a girl left to grapple with her mother's unpredictability. It's a school night, and Addie is anxiously waiting for her mother, **Mommers**, who frequently comes home late, raising Addie's anxiety and fears of abandonment. The late hour evokes haunting memories of prior nights when Mommers didn't return home for days, leaving Addie responsible for her younger sisters, **Brynna** and **Katie**. This experience not only casts a long shadow over her current feelings but also underscores the fragility of their family dynamic.

As Addie wrestles with her worries, she is also struggling with her schoolwork, particularly her writing, where she finds it challenging to translate her thoughts coherently onto the page. This frustration mirrors her concerns about Mommers—it highlights how both her school challenges and her mother's absence feel like overwhelming burdens that she can't control. However, she finds solace in her supportive friends, **Helena** and **Marissa**, who are empathetic towards her struggles, providing a contrast to the isolation she often feels at home.

Addie's reflections also lead her to ponder over Mommers' new business venture, contemplating its potential success and the hope it could bring to their tumultuous lives. Yet, this hope is tainted by her fear, deeply rooted in

More Free Book



Scan to Download

past experiences where stability seemed unattainable. The juxtaposition of **hope** and **fear** permeates the chapter, revealing Addie's deep longing for security amidst the uncertainty that her mother's actions bring.

A poignant memory resurfaces of a time when a snowstorm trapped her and her sisters alone for several days; this reinforces Addie's role as a caretaker, thrusting her into adult responsibilities way ahead of her time. Her ability to handle these situations speaks to her maturity and resilience, yet it also illustrates the heavy emotional burden she bears.

Overall, Chapter 14 paints a vivid picture of Addie's internal conflict, showcasing her yearning for connection and stability against the backdrop of anxiety and uncertainty. The stillness of the trailer amplifies her reflections and heightens the suspense as she awaits Mommers' return, encapsulating the essence of a young girl caught between hope for a better future and the haunting echoes of her past.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 15 Summary: another dish of fish-and-chips

In Chapter 16, titled "Another Dish of Fish and Chips," Addie grapples with the complexities of her home life, driven by her mother, Mommers, whose financial situation remains shrouded in secrecy. Despite their dwindling supply of everyday essentials like bread, Mommers seems to be thriving, sporting new business attire, Halloween decorations, and a growing collection of office supplies. This sharp contrast raises red flags for Addie, who is concerned about the instability lurking beneath Mommers' confident façade.

Amidst these worries, a ray of hope shines through when Addie receives the exciting news of her acceptance into the Stage Orchestra. Her music teacher, Ms. Rivera, praises her talent and tries to reach Mommers to share the news. Addie's rush to celebrate her achievement with friends Helena and Marissa highlights the support network she relies on, while Robert's begrudging acknowledgment of her talent illustrates the varying dynamics of their friendships.

When Addie shares

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 16: a different sort of halloween

Chapter 17: A Different Sort of Halloween

In this chapter, the spirit of Halloween contrasts sharply with Addie's mounting sense of disappointment. As December 12 approaches, a date of significant personal importance for Addie, she yearns for festive fun, particularly through the traditional activities of trick-or-treating with her friends Marissa and Helena. However, her plans quickly unravel: Helena's mother decides on a safer neighborhood for her daughter, while Marissa's parents refuse to let her participate at all.

In a bid to salvage the evening, Addie turns to her mother, affectionately called Mommers, proposing an adventurous night of trick-or-treating together. Yet, much to Addie's dismay, Mommers dismisses the idea outright, insisting that she is now too old for such childish pursuits. This rejection underscores a widening emotional gap in their relationship, as Mommers grapples with her own business challenges and aspirations, leaving Addie feeling neglected.

Seeking comfort, Addie ventures into the local minimart where she encounters Soula and Elliot. They recognize her disappointment and invite her to assist in handing out candy while dressed in costume. Elliot, with his



creative flair, transforms Addie into a whimsical clown, complete with a colorful dress and face paint. This moment brings joy and laughter, providing a temporary escape from her troubles at home.

However, when Addie returns to show Mommers her costume, the

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





World' best ideas unlock your potential

Free Trial with Bookey



Scan to download



Chapter 17 Summary: a phone call from the mansion

Summary of Chapter 18: A Phone Call from the Mansion

As Halloween concludes, Addie finds herself in a state of anxious anticipation, eagerly awaiting the return of her mother, Mommers. Confiding in her pet hamster, Piccolo, she reflects on the small suitcase her mother carried away, hinting at a transient situation that adds to her unease. This sense of longing for maternal presence frames the chapter with an emotional backdrop.

The mood shifts pleasantly when Addie receives a phone call from Dwight, a friend who has become a source of warmth and support. He delights her with tales of his Halloween adventures, especially focusing on his younger sister, Katie, who amusingly dressed as a "hampister." Their playful banter reveals a deepening bond between Addie and Dwight's family, showcasing their shared joy through stories and lighthearted mispronunciations.

Dwight brings exciting news of a move to a new, more affordable home in Lake George, a change he presents as an opportunity for both of them. He introduces the idea of a girl named Hannah, subtly indicating he would like to connect Addie with her. This mention piques Addie's curiosity and excitement, providing a glimpse into the social dynamics of expanding her



friendships.

The conversation culminates with Dwight inviting Addie to spend Thanksgiving with his family. The prospect of this visit fills her with joy and hope, offering a bright spot in her otherwise uncertain life. Eagerly contemplating her packing for the trip, Addie's spirit lifts as she embraces the idea of community and connection, even in her mother's absence.

The chapter closes with Addie feeling hopeful and resilient, signaling her ability to navigate the challenges of her current situation while looking forward to brighter days.

Themes: This chapter emphasizes the significance of familial bonds, the power of hope and anticipation during uncertain times, and the purity of childhood friendships, all of which enrich Addie's journey and emotional landscape as she faces her life's changes.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 18 Summary: the new blue car

Chapter 19: The New Blue Car

This chapter unfolds on a lively Monday morning, centered around Addison, affectionately known as Addie. The tone is set with an unexpected twist when her mother, Mommers, arrives in a dazzling blue car—Addie’s favorite color. The sight of the car instantly sparks curiosity and excitement in Addie as Mommers joyfully invites her to join in for the drive to school, transforming their routine into an adventure.

Mommers, overflowing with energy, greets Addie with a playful hug and humorously breaks into an old song. This lighthearted moment highlights the close bond they share, filled with laughter and teasing. However, as they pass by Addie’s friend Soula, Mommers’ lively antics induce a sense of embarrassment in Addie, reflecting the sometimes awkward nature of growing up and seeking maturity.

As they cruise along, Addie savors the sensory experience of the new car—the distinct smell and plush seats rekindle her fond memories of carefree drives. When Mommers inquires about her thoughts on the car, Addie cheekily sidesteps the question, a subtle hint at her yearning for independence and a classic touch of teenage rebellion. This playful



back-and-forth not only showcases Mommers' fun-loving nature but also serves to illustrate the occasional frustration it can cause Addie.

Upon arriving at school, Mommers' buoyant spirit remains undiminished as she playfully pokes fun at Addie's lack of excitement about their drive. This interaction effectively encapsulates the complex dynamics of their relationship, characterized by love, embarrassment, and the inevitable challenges of adolescence. Through this short car ride, the chapter richly conveys a spectrum of emotions, emphasizing the significance of family connections in Addie's life as she navigates the ups and downs of growing up.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 19 Summary: all or nothing

Chapter 20: All or Nothing

In this reflective chapter, Addie confronts the complexities of her home life, particularly her tumultuous relationship with her mother, Mommers. The narrative opens with a conversation between Addie and Soula, a warm-hearted woman who serves as a supportive figure in Addie's life. Soula notices Addie's recent absence and inquires about her well-being during a weekend when she was left to “hold down the fort” in their trailer while Mommers was away.

As they speak, Soula gently probes into Mommers' emotional struggles, alluding to her unpredictable moods that Addie has grown accustomed to. Despite Addie's attempts to uphold a sense of normalcy, the underlying truth of Mommers' erratic behavior weighs heavily on her. Addie reveals her mother's tendency to immerse herself passionately in various pursuits—whether it was her aspiration to become a nurse or, later on, a psychologist—only to abandon them when faced with challenges. Mommers is characterized as an “all or nothing person,” whose intense ambition often leads to instability for Addie and their family.

Addie's thoughts flow through vivid memories of these patterns in

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Mommers' life, illustrating how each failed ambition shatters the fragile stability of their lives. These cycles of promise and disappointment not only foster conflict within their household but also culminated in Mommers' decision to leave at one point, with devastating effects on Addie and her family.

The chapter poignantly explores themes of ambition, emotional instability, and the profound impact that parental choices leave on children. As Addie grapples with her feelings of affection and disappointment towards Mommers, we witness her resilience and the heavy burdens she carries in navigating the chaos that surrounds her. This moment of introspection enriches the narrative, illustrating Addie's struggle to find her footing amidst the unpredictability of her mother's life.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 20: dwight explaining hannah

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey



Ad



Try Bookey App to read 1000+ summary of world best books

Unlock **1000+** Titles, **80+** Topics

New titles added every week

- Brand
- Leadership & Collaboration
- Time Management
- Relationship & Communication
- Business Strategy
- Creativity
- Public
- Money & Investing
- Know Yourself
- Positive Psychology
- Entrepreneurship
- World History
- Parent-Child Communication
- Self-care
- Mind & Spirituality

Insights of world best books



Free Trial with Bookey

Chapter 21 Summary: all about twos and fours

Summary of Chapter 22: All About Twos and Fours

In this heartwarming chapter, Addie and Hannah sit by Grandio's fading fire, creating a cozy backdrop for a meaningful conversation. Addie, who sees Hannah as a mother figure, is eager to learn more about her. In response, Hannah uses a playful framework of "twos and fours" to recount key moments from her life.

Hannah begins by noting that after graduating high school at eighteen, she worked as a waitress for two years. This experience was followed by four years of college, which were pivotal in shaping her adult life. Seeking adventure, she then embarked on a cross-country trip intending to last four weeks; however, her journey turned into two years, as she fell in love with the landscapes and opportunities of the West.

Tragically, her life took an unexpected turn when both of her parents fell ill, necessitating her return home to care for them. Hannah treasures the time she spent with her parents during this difficult period, despite the sadness of their eventual passing.

Just as she was preparing to return to the West, Hannah discovered an inn

More Free Book



Scan to Download

that captivated her imagination. Seeing its potential, she decided to invest her parents' inheritance into revitalizing the establishment, showcasing her adventurous spirit and readiness to embrace new beginnings despite the challenges that life presents.

As their conversation unfolds, Hannah expresses her gratitude for having Addie and her sisters in her life, highlighting the joy they bring to her existence. This interaction deepens Addie's appreciation for Hannah, making her realize the importance of having such a supportive figure in their lives. The chapter elegantly weaves together themes of family, resilience, and the unpredictable nature of life, ultimately enhancing the meaning of their Thanksgiving celebration and fostering a sense of gratitude for their evolving "instant family."

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 22 Summary: bedtime at the inn

In Chapter 23, titled "Bedtime at the Inn," the characters—Addie, Brynna, and Katie—arrive at the idyllic Lake George inn on Thanksgiving night. The scene is enchanting, illuminated by moonlight, as they take in their new home, a cozy yet unfinished abode owned by Dwight and Hannah. Addie, blending excitement with unease, reflects on the potential of this seemingly chaotic but loving environment.

Inside the inn, Dwight and Hannah juggle the responsibilities of caring for Brynna and Katie, while Addie grapples with feelings of exclusion. She yearns to be part of the bedtime routine, feeling a disconnect from the warm familial interactions around her. A pivotal moment occurs when she assists Hannah with changing Katie's diaper, leading Addie to recognize her own capabilities in caring for her sisters. This act not only helps bridge the gap between her and Hannah but also marks the beginning of a growing bond founded on shared experiences.

The overarching themes of family and belonging echo strongly throughout this chapter. The playful interactions and mutual care showcased among the characters illuminate the importance of nurturing relationships as they transition into this new phase of life. Addie's longing to be integrated into this family unit underscores her quest for acceptance and her place within it. As they share small tasks and moments together, a canvas of support and

More Free Book



Scan to Download

unity begins to form, suggesting that this imperfect yet loving environment could transform into a genuine home for them all.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 23 Summary: breakfasts and boxes

Chapter 24: Breakfasts and Boxes

On a lively morning filled with laughter, Addie awakens to the enthusiastic chatter of the Littles, Katie and Brynna, eagerly awaiting breakfast. Their anticipation is met with the warm aroma of pancakes cooked by Hannah, who takes pride in her culinary skills. This familial setting is rich in comfort and connection, offering Addie her first glimpse into this new home.

As the morning unfolds, Addie explores the cozy space shared by Dwight, Hannah, and their children. Breakfast is a joyful affair, characterized by playful conversations and the delightful sight of pancakes disappearing quickly. The Littles soon express their eagerness to dive into a special project: filling boxes for Hannah's mail-order business. This venture involves assembling and sending out handmade crafts created by local artists, showcasing the creativity within their community.

The basement, a hub of activity, transforms into a bustling workspace as the Littles assist Hannah. Brynna impresses everyone with her knowledge of the various crafts, displaying her keen learning ability. Addie finds herself caught up in the enthusiasm, running around and helping with the organization, which fosters a sense of achievement and teamwork among

More Free Book



Scan to Download

them all. In this environment, the simple task of filling boxes becomes a bonding experience.

Dwight, bringing a playful energy to the scene, reminds everyone of the importance of breaks and outdoor play, hinting at the good-natured dynamic within the household. Amidst the activity, Addie overhears an intimate conversation between Dwight and Hannah about custody—revealing the complexities of their family life. Although Dwight is not her biological father, his deep care for Addie becomes evident, as he strives to create a nurturing environment for her and the Littles.

This chapter beautifully explores the themes of family dynamics, belonging, and the challenges that come with adult responsibilities. As the day winds down, Addie takes the initiative to cook scrambled eggs for breakfast, a heartfelt gesture that signifies her growing connection with the family. The camaraderie is palpable, and as Addie promises to return for a concert, the chapter closes on a note of hope, reinforcing the bonds of love and friendship built during her stay.

In this vibrant chapter, the interplay between the innocence of youth and the weight of adult concerns captures the essence of family—both by blood and by choice—highlighting the warmth and support they provide one another.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 24: a ton of turkey soup

Summary of Chapter 25: A Ton of Turkey Soup

In this chapter, Addie returns home after a four-day trip, eagerly anticipating a reunion with her beloved pet Piccolo and her mother, affectionately referred to as Mommers. Her excitement is palpable as she arrives at the nearby minimart, where she greets Soula and Elliot warmly while recounting her adventures and playfully teasing them about their recent delivery mishaps. However, her joy is somewhat dampened when she realizes that Mommers is not waiting for her at the corner as she had expected.

Upon arriving at their trailer, Addie is eager to see Piccolo but discovers she is locked out. Climbing onto a cinder block to look through the window, she finally feels a wave of relief when Mommers arrives with the key. Their reunion is touching, and the concerns about Piccolo's well-being are quickly assuaged as they banter humorously about their Thanksgiving experiences.

Mommers brings home a large bag filled with turkey carcasses sourced from the soup kitchen, where she volunteered during the holiday. She expresses her joy at having helped others while they prepare to make turkey soup together, reflecting Mommers' compassionate nature. As they work side by side, the playful exchanges between mother and daughter highlight their

More Free Book



Scan to Download

strong bond.

Throughout the chapter, Addie also dedicates time to practice her flute for an upcoming concert, reinforcing her commitment to music—a source of comfort and expression for her. The narrative culminates with the trailer filled with the delightful scents of cooking and the soothing sounds of passing trains, encapsulating the themes of family, home, and nostalgia. This segment beautifully portrays the simplicity and warmth of Addie and Mommers' everyday lives, celebrating their unique relationship and the joys they share in their small world.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





Why Bookey is must have App for Book Lovers



30min Content

The deeper and clearer interpretation we provide, the better grasp of each title you have.



Text and Audio format

Absorb knowledge even in fragmented time.



Quiz

Check whether you have mastered what you just learned.



And more

Multiple Voices & fonts, Mind Map, Quotes, IdeaClips...

Free Trial with Bookey



Chapter 25 Summary: from good to bad

Chapter 26: From Good to Bad

In this vibrant chapter, Addison's day unfolds as a rollercoaster of emotions, illustrating the turbulence of adolescence. It begins with a promising morning when she excitedly wakes up early to savor her favorite raisin bread. However, her enthusiasm takes a hit when her toast burns. In a comedic turn, she rushes outside in her bathrobe, holding the smoking toaster, drawing laughter from a passing trucker—a moment that captures both the chaos and humor of her day.

The stakes of her morning rise when she discovers she's gotten her first period, a significant milestone that blends embarrassment with excitement. Addison turns to her mother, affectionately known as Mommers, for support. Though sleepy at first, Mommers quickly shifts to a light-hearted approach, helping Addison gather supplies with jokes, tossing various pads onto the bed, and even gifting her a new pair of underwear. This playful interaction adds warmth to what could have been an awkward moment, embodying the mother-daughter bond amidst the trials of growing up.

At school, a surprising boost to Addison's confidence arises when her music teacher, Ms. Rivera, awards her a solo in the upcoming holiday concert.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Eager to share her good news, Addison revels in her friends' supportive reactions, momentarily lifting her spirits after the chaotic start to her day.

Later, a stop at the minimart provides another bright spot as she shares in the joy of her friends, Soula and Elliot, who have news about their restaurant. However, by evening, the tone shifts dramatically when Addison arrives home to find Mommers has picked out a dress for the concert that Addison finds uncomfortable and too mature.

The situation intensifies when Dwight arrives just as Addison is wearing the dress. His response, paired with Mommers' insistence on its beauty, leads to an awkward standoff where Addison feels increasingly overwhelmed—in a moment that encapsulates the challenges of growing up. Despite Dwight's efforts to reassure her, Mommers' teasing heightens the tension, leaving Addison feeling cornered and misunderstood.

As the day draws to a close, Addison grapples with her emotions. Mommers, engrossed in a television show, brushes off Addison's feelings, while a strained phone conversation with Dwight leaves her feeling regretful for not being kinder to him. This complicated mix of frustration and longing for understanding encapsulates the essence of her teenage experience.

By the chapter's end, Addison curls up in her bunk, reflecting on the day's events. Despite the ups and downs, she clings to the hope for brighter

More Free Book



Scan to Download

mornings ahead. This chapter compellingly captures the themes of growing pains, the complexities of parent-child relationships, and the bittersweet nature of transitioning into young adulthood, all laced with humor and tenderness.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 26 Summary: willing to bloom

Chapter 27: Willing to Bloom

Set against the backdrop of the holiday season, this chapter unfolds on December twelfth, the shortest day of the year, as excitement permeates the air at Addie's school. The Stage Orchestra is gearing up for its highly anticipated holiday concert, and tension builds as Addie and her friends look forward to showcasing their hard-earned practice during seventh period.

As they perform, Addie feels an overwhelming sense of pride, noting that their rendition surpasses all previous performances—flawless, with no missed notes. Throughout the piece, she stays focused on her conductor, Ms. Rivera, using eye contact to receive cues, which adds to the thrill of the experience. The audience's enthusiastic applause washes over her, evoking feelings of joy and accomplishment.

However, once the performance ends, excitement gives way to anxiety when Addie confides in her friend Helena about the formal gown she is expected to wear for the evening concert. The gown feels restrictive and uncomfortable, amplifying her insecurities. In a moment of camaraderie, Helena shares her own fashion struggles, lamenting the awkwardness of a hand-me-down skirt that is too short. This exchange strengthens their bond,

More Free Book



Scan to Download

allowing both girls to embrace the challenges of growing up with humor and empathy.

As they walk home past Onion College, the festive decorations and wintry scene outside evoke a sense of community and warmth during this cheerful season. They share laughs, with Addie joking about needing a raincoat from the local fire company, which, while humorous, also underscores deeper themes of feeling out of place and the heavy weight of personal and familial expectations.

Amidst this festive atmosphere, Addie reflects on a previous conversation with Soula about the symbolic beauty of the indoor Chinese hibiscus, which embodies the idea of being "willing to bloom." This reflection serves as a gentle reminder of the importance of self-acceptance and embracing personal growth, even in the face of fear.

In a moment of resolve, Addie reassures Helena of her commitment to attend the concert that evening, affirming the value of support and friendship amidst their shared struggles. This chapter beautifully encapsulates themes of friendship, self-acceptance, and the courage to confront one's fears, all interwoven with the magic and complexity of adolescence during the holiday season.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 27 Summary: twists and turns

Chapter 28: Twists and Turns Summary

As the night of her much-anticipated music concert approaches, Addie is filled with hope and anxiety. She is particularly nervous about her mother, Mommers, meeting her friend Hannah, knowing that their differing personalities could clash. Amid the excitement, challenges begin to mount: Mommers is late, and Addie struggles to finalize her dress while maintaining a positive outlook despite her worries about her appearance.

As minutes turn into hours and Mommers still hasn't arrived, Addie's panic sets in; she fears she might miss the concert entirely. Just when despair threatens to overwhelm her, Dwight, a supportive friend, arrives and rushes her to school. However, the excitement is quickly overshadowed by dread when Addie spots her former music teacher, Mrs. Sylvester, in the audience. Haunted by unresolved feelings regarding her old flute lessons, Addie's anxiety escalates, and she resolves not to perform.

Dwight's reassurance offers her some comfort, but the pressure mounts as her fears outside the venue erupt into frustration. In a tender moment, he wipes away her tears, highlighting the strength of their friendship in stark contrast to the tension in her relationship with her mother.



When Hannah and the Littles join them, Dwight suggests diverting their evening plans from the concert to viewing Christmas lights, followed by dessert at Numbskull Dorry's, turning the focus away from disappointment. Just as the group settles into their new plans, Mommers arrives, frazzled and questioning Addie about her decision not to perform, which reignites existing tensions between them.

The chapter underscores complex family dynamics, the necessity for mutual understanding, and the critical role of friendship during turbulent times. Dwight's unwavering support for Addie shines against the backdrop of her fraught relationship with Mommers, emphasizing themes of loyalty and the healing power of communication. As the chapter concludes, Addie musters the courage to address her feelings of being neglected, hinting at unresolved issues that will inevitably surface. The night's unexpected developments leave her grappling with a blend of frustration and determination to confront the challenges ahead.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 28: the counting-on part

Summary of Chapter 29: The Counting On Part

In this emotionally resonant chapter, we find Mommers, a devoted yet weary mother, convening with her daughters—Hannah, Katie, and Brynna. The atmosphere radiates tension as Mommers sits lost in thought, grappling with her concerns about her children's well-being and her role as a parent. In a moment of vulnerability, she admits to feeling overwhelmed, signaling the heavy burden she carries.

Hannah, a nurturing spirit, attempts to uplift the mood with lighthearted conversation about treats and outings. However, beneath the surface, sadness permeates the interactions. Katie shares her excitement about recent holiday lights and ice cream indulgences, but Brynna remains withdrawn, her attention fixated on her napkin rather than engaging in the exchange. This dynamic underscores Mommers' growing struggle to connect with her daughters, hinting at a disheartening possibility of their family evolving into a constellation of "napkin twisters"—individuals who conceal their vulnerabilities.

As night falls, the narrator's remorse deepens, sparked by an unfortunate lapse in attending an important concert amidst the day's chaos. This moment

More Free Book



Scan to Download

of guilt amplifies the broader themes of accountability and the pressure of being "counted on" by loved ones. Reflecting on past missteps, including hesitance to borrow library books out of fear of losing them, the narrator confronts their own shortcomings. In a poignant moment of determination, they resolve to return their flute—a symbol of reclaiming personal responsibility and clarity in their chaotic world.

Overall, this chapter profoundly explores the intricacies of familial relationships, the weight of expectations, and the journey toward self-understanding and growth, all viewed through the sensitive lens of a young person's internal struggles and realizations.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





★ ★ ★ ★ ★
22k 5 star review

Positive feedback

Sara Scholz

...tes after each book summary
...erstanding but also make the
...and engaging. Bookey has
...ling for me.

Fantastic!!!



I'm amazed by the variety of books and languages Bookey supports. It's not just an app, it's a gateway to global knowledge. Plus, earning points for charity is a big plus!

Masood El Toure

Fi



Ab
bo
to
my

José Botín

...ding habit
...o's design
...ual growth

Love it!



Bookey offers me time to go through the important parts of a book. It also gives me enough idea whether or not I should purchase the whole book version or not! It is easy to use!

Wonnie Tappkx

Time saver!



Bookey is my go-to app for summaries are concise, ins curated. It's like having acc right at my fingertips!

Awesome app!



I love audiobooks but don't always have time to listen to the entire book! bookey allows me to get a summary of the highlights of the book I'm interested in!!! What a great concept !!!highly recommended!

Rahul Malviya

Beautiful App



This app is a lifesaver for book lovers with busy schedules. The summaries are spot on, and the mind maps help reinforce wh I've learned. Highly recommend!

Alex Walk

Free Trial with Bookey

Chapter 29 Summary: a frozen good-bye

In Chapter 30, titled "A Frozen Good-Bye," the protagonist deeply contemplates her life and her complex relationship with her mother, Mommers. After stepping out of the shower, she inadvertently overhears Mommers on the phone with Dwight, a character whose significance hints at a potential separation affecting their Christmas plans. Mommers' reluctance about Dwight's visit underscores her inner conflict regarding family dynamics and the challenges of transitioning during the holiday season.

Following her mother's departure, the protagonist dons warm clothing and undertakes a long, chilly walk toward a bridge, where she intends to perform a reflective and secretive act with her flute. The weather has turned harsh, with icy conditions that complicate her journey. As she traverses the bridge, she watches the Mohawk River slowly freeze, an image that evokes both awe and a sense of disorientation, mirroring her emotional state.

Humming music from a recent concert, she is flooded with nostalgia, particularly for the memorable moments spent with her friend Helena in the Stage Orchestra. This reminiscence accentuates her feelings of longing and connection to her past, especially as she contemplates returning the flute, which she perceives as stolen property. The act of returning the flute carries significant weight for her; it's a step towards closure yet filled with a bittersweet sensation.



However, her plan to return the flute becomes complicated when she must wait for road crews clearing the snow at her old school, delaying her emotional farewell. Once the trucks finally leave, she makes her way to the school's entrance and carefully places the flute there. This poignant moment serves as a farewell not only to the instrument but also to a significant part of her identity. With a final wave, she bids adieu to music, symbolizing both the end of a cherished chapter and the uncertainties that await her. Throughout this journey, themes of growth, nostalgia, and the bittersweet nature of letting go resonate profoundly.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 30 Summary: an unexpected meeting

In Chapter 31, titled "An Unexpected Meeting," we follow Addie, who braves the biting cold on her jog home from school, her thoughts drifting to the comforting prospect of lunch. The frigid air bites at her, exacerbated by a driver's impatient honk as she crosses a busy road, stirring her frustrations.

Just when her spirits sag, a familiar car pulls over—it's her grandfather, affectionately known as Grandio. Thrilled by the unexpected reunion, she hops into the car, grateful for its warmth. Their destination is a beloved diner where the family used to gather, a place rich with memories and the quirky antics of its staff, evoking a strong sense of nostalgia for Addie. As they share this moment, she reflects on her longing for her sisters, Brynna and Katie, yearning for the tight-knit family they once were before their lives began to unravel.

During their lunch, Grandio surprises Addie with a twenty-dollar bill, suggesting she splurge on something special. While she contemplates saving it for a significant purchase, her immediate craving for hot soup prevails. The chance encounter with familiar faces, Soula and Elliot, adds warmth and levity to the scene, as their playful banter and dynamic interactions fill the diner with a lighthearted atmosphere.

As Addie enjoys her steaming bowl of soup, she expresses her hopes of

More Free Book



Scan to Download

reuniting with her sisters during the holidays, clinging to the notion of family despite the hardships she currently faces. This chapter adeptly encapsulates themes of family ties, nostalgia, and the small pleasures that life offers, highlighting Addie's resilience as she navigates her complex emotions and circumstances.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 31 Summary: a few gifts before christmas

Chapter 32: A Few Gifts Before Christmas - Summary

In this chapter, Addie is approached by her music teacher, Ms. Rivera, who requests her presence in the music room. Despite her reservations about being late, Addie complies. Their conversation centers around the recent holiday concert, a nerve-wracking event for Addie, which was compounded by the presence of Mrs. Sylvester, a teacher from her past who has caused her distress. Addie explains that she has returned her flute to Borden School, finding relief in releasing the pressure it placed on her. Despite Ms. Rivera's offer to help her retrieve the flute or find another, Addie feels firm in her decision.

As the Christmas break begins, Addie reconnects with her friend Helena, who expresses concern for her well-being. Addie comforts her friend but is also yearning for a respite from the stresses of school. On her way home, she receives a small gift from a kind-hearted fireman: a box of chocolate seashells. At the minimart, she shares this treat with her friends Soula and Elliot, who surprise her with a thoughtful Christmas present of warm boots filled with various goodies.

This warmth and community starkly contrast with Addie's tumultuous home

More Free Book



Scan to Download

life. Upon returning home, she finds her mother, Mommers, and younger sister, Jeanette, engaged in their usual routine. Mommers remains unimpressed by Addie's new gifts, particularly the chocolates, and shifts her attention to her online life, displaying a typical distraction that complicates their relationship.

In a moment of affection, Addie bakes cookies, an activity that provides her a sense of stability amidst the chaos. During this time, she confides in Mommers about her decision to quit playing the flute, a revelation that surprises her mother. Mommers grapples with understanding Addie's feelings, reflecting her desire to "fix" situations without fully grasping the emotional weight behind them.

The chapter concludes with a note of optimism as Mommers mentions plans for Addie to visit her friend Dwight between Christmas and New Year's. This represents a potential new adventure for Addie, serving as a metaphorical gift that balances the challenges she faces with moments of joy and support throughout the holiday season.

Key Themes:

- **Personal Growth:** Addie's choice to let go of the flute illustrates her increasing awareness of her own limits and desires.
- **Friendship and Support:** The thoughtfulness shown by friends like



Soula and Elliot underscores the vital role that community plays during difficult times.

- **Family Dynamics:** The complex relationship between Addie and Mommers highlights the difficulties of family life, particularly the challenge of navigating expectations and truly understanding each other's emotional experiences.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 32: waiting for normal

In Chapter 33, titled "Waiting for Normal," Addie experiences a complex blend of excitement and impatience as Christmas approaches. While many look forward to the holiday festivities, Addie's anticipation is uniquely tied to her desire to escape her current environment and celebrate with Dwight, Hannah, and the Littles at Lake George. This year is different; the absence of a Christmas tree and Mommers' lack of holiday spirit cast a shadow over what should be a joyful time.

As Addie returns from a humdrum trip to the laundromat, she confronts the cluttered chaos of their trailer—a stark reflection of their unsettled lives. In a moment of levity, she discovers an almost empty box that once held seashell chocolates, leading to a humorous exchange with Mommers, who cheekily admits to indulging in the treats, even grabbing Addie's last one. This playful but revealing interaction underscores their unusual yet affectionate bond, showcasing Mommers' carefree attitude amidst the disorder.

Deep within her interactions and observations, Addie's internal struggle becomes apparent. She yearns for stability and a sense of belonging, simply waiting for "normal" to materialize in her life—a longing for a better home life and the warmth of family connections during the holidays. The chapter closes on a note of hope as Addie, preparing for her impending trip, clings to the possibility of a happier future away from the complexities of her present



situation.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey

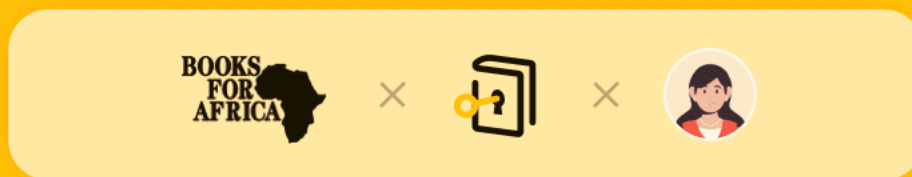




Read, Share, Empower

Finish Your Reading Challenge, Donate Books to African Children.

The Concept



This book donation activity is rolling out together with Books For Africa. We release this project because we share the same belief as BFA: For many children in Africa, the gift of books truly is a gift of hope.

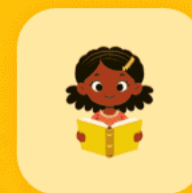
The Rule



Earn 100 points



Redeem a book



Donate to Africa

Your learning not only brings knowledge but also allows you to earn points for charitable causes! For every 100 points you earn, a book will be donated to Africa.

Free Trial with Bookey

Chapter 33 Summary: jingle all the way

In the chapter "Christmas Chaos at the Trailer," the Christmas morning experience for Addie and her mother, Mommers, unfolds in disarray amid their trailer setting. The day begins on a troubling note, as Mommers spends Christmas Eve drinking out and returns just after dawn, cheerfully but carelessly wrapped in her coat. Addie, yearning for a warm family holiday, attempts to connect with her mother, who appears more drawn to the lively festivities outside their home than to the intimate celebrations within.

As they engage in their gift exchange, Mommers enthuses over Addie's presents, including a new sweater and a colorful pen, which delight Addie. However, the atmosphere is laced with tension; Mommers seems restless and keen to leave rather than savor the moment together. Addie, sensitive to her mother's demeanor, feels the growing anxiety of their tenuous relationship, recognizing Mommers' struggle between her responsibilities and her desire for freedom.

A pivotal moment arises when Mommers unexpectedly announces her pregnancy, believing this news will lift their spirits. However, for Addie, the revelation is a painful jolt, especially as she grapples with her mother's unstable relationship with Pete, Mommers' partner. Addie's emotional turmoil deepens as she questions whether Mommers has truly considered the ramifications of this decision on their already fragile family structure.



The situation escalates into a heated confrontation, where Addie implores Mommers to think critically about the impact of her choices. In response, Mommers becomes defensive, urging Addie to keep her opinions to herself. The argument culminates with Mommers storming out, leaving Addie feeling abandoned and anxious about the looming changes ahead.

This chapter underscores the complexities of navigating familial ties in a non-traditional environment, especially during a holiday typically celebrated with joy and unity. Themes of love, the struggles of adolescence, and the conflicts that arise from the clash of personal desires and parental duties resonate throughout, setting the stage for Addie's challenges in adapting to these unforeseen developments.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 34 Summary: another thing to borrow

Chapter 35: Another Thing to Borrow

In this chapter, Addie is preparing for a trip to Lake George, leaving her beloved pet Piccolo in the care of her mother, Mommers. However, she is burdened by unsettling news about Mommers' new baby, which serves as a painful reminder of past neglect and emotional distance in their relationship. As Addie travels by bus, her thoughts spiral into sadness, overshadowing her anticipation of the trip.

Upon her arrival, however, her spirits are instantly lifted by the warm welcome from Dwight, Hannah, and the Little girls. They have made a special effort to keep Christmas alive for her, with gifts wrapped under the tree waiting for her, which fills her with joy and a sense of belonging. The laughter, festive decorations, and shared meals provide a comforting backdrop to her visit.

Among the thoughtful gifts, Addie receives a new duffel bag, symbolizing the family's care and unity. Brynna, in particular, meticulously packs her belongings into the bag, showcasing her attention to detail but also highlighting her own struggles with being away from Mommers.



During a heartfelt moment while washing dishes with Dwight, Addie opens up about her feelings of inadequacy stemming from her learning disability, dyslexia. Dwight reassures her that her worth is not defined by her challenges, emphasizing her intelligence and capabilities. Despite this supportive conversation, Addie experiences a complex mix of joy and sadness, likening it to a “chewy, gooey center” beneath her cheerful facade, revealing her inner turmoil.

As the chapter unfolds, joyful experiences at the inn are contrasted with an underlying sense of unease, as Addie comes to terms with the temporary nature of these happy moments. She begins to crystallize an understanding of the need for change in her life, encapsulating the theme of borrowed moments that resonate with the complexities of her situation. This chapter beautifully weaves together the intricacies of Addie's emotional landscape, illustrating her struggles and the warmth of the connections she cherishes.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 35 Summary: loads of snow

Chapter 36 Summary: Loads of Snow

In January, heavy snowstorms blanket Addie's world, turning her school days into a series of unpredictable closures. While she delights in the beauty of the winter landscape, her enjoyment is soon marred when the city begins dumping heaps of dirty snow onto the Empty Acre, obstructing Soula's home—a place cherished by Addie and her friends. In a passionate display of solidarity, Elliot confronts the truck driver, advocating for Soula's right to access sunlight, but his efforts go largely ignored, reinforcing the bond among the trio in their shared frustrations.

Retreating to Soula's greenhouse for warmth and camaraderie, the friends engage in lighthearted banter amidst the dreary weather. Soula humorously rebrands the enormous snow pile blocking her home as her “avalanche,” sparking creative exchanges as they contemplate the idea of selling it. To bring some cheer to their situation, they craft a sign announcing this playful venture, with Addie taking the initiative to plant it atop the mound, a small act of joy in the snowy gloom.

With school closures freeing up her schedule, Addie frequently visits Soula and Elliot, where they invent a new game called "cardboarding," sliding



down the snowy hills on cardboard sheets while the others cheer her on. This imaginative play injects warmth and laughter into their days, highlighting the importance of friendship during the cold winter months.

Despite these joyful moments, Addie navigates her responsibilities at home as Mommers is away, keeping tabs on their dwindling kitchen supplies and using the snow as an excuse to dodge Dwight's inquiries about her well-being. When Dwight calls to check in, Addie fabricates a story about the buses being suspended due to the weather, underscoring her desire for independence and reluctance to invite unwanted attention.

The chapter reaches an emotional climax as Addie wrestles with the weight of Dwight's concern, revealing her inner turmoil and longing for connection. Tears threaten to spill as she contemplates her feelings of isolation against the backdrop of hope and resilience, illustrating the intricate dynamics of her family relationships. This poignant moment encapsulates the themes of friendship, resilience, and the complexities of navigating emotional and familial challenges amidst external turmoil.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 36: a visit from grandio

In Chapter 37, we explore the turbulent dynamics of Addie's life, particularly her relationship with her mother, Mommers. As Addie tends to a poinsettia plant gifted by Dwight, she reflects on the complexities of her home life and the underlying tension stemming from their financial difficulties. Mommers returns home after a few days, radiating an anxious energy and complaining about the oddities of life at the minimart, particularly their attempts to sell snow.

Amid their struggles, Mommers expresses frustration over their financial woes, particularly regarding a postdated check from Dwight, which has left them short on cash. Her emotional turmoil is palpable, leaving Addie caught in a whirlwind of sympathy and exasperation. Mommers asks Addie to seek help from Soula at the minimart to cash the check, emphasizing their reliance on friends during tough times.

As the chapter unfolds, Grandio, Dwight's father, makes an unexpected visit, further complicating the family dynamics. Despite Mommers' likely intent to exclude him, Grandio's arrival shifts the atmosphere. He inquires about Addie and Mommers, revealing that Dwight and the babies are sick, which adds to the family's stress.

Despite the challenges, Addie demonstrates resilience when she assists



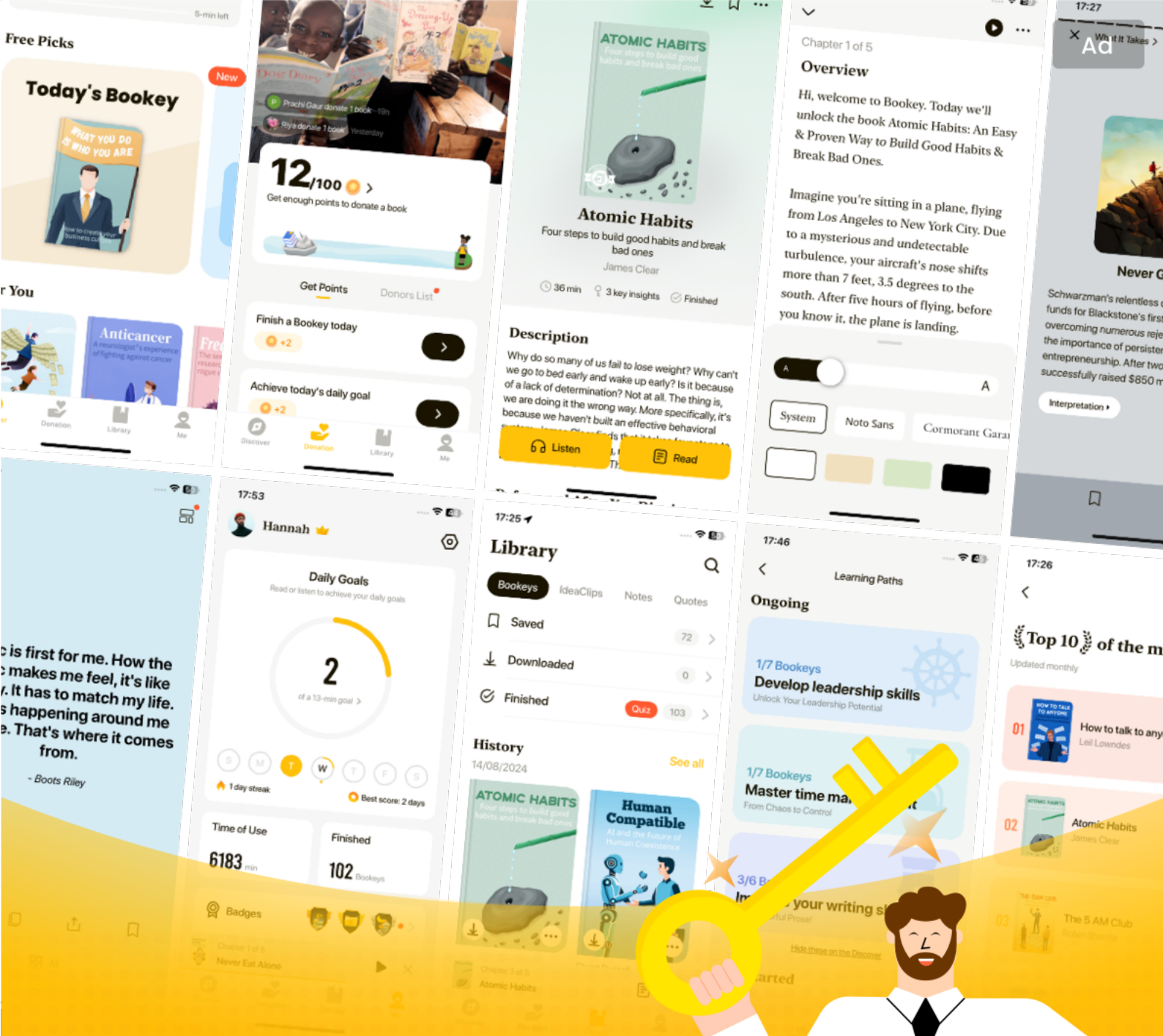
Grandio with his stuck car, showcasing her emerging independence and determination. She reflects on the imperfections of the adults around her, recognizing that while they may falter, each plays a crucial role in her life. As the chapter ends, Addie and her pet, Piccolo, prepare to face whatever challenges lie ahead, embodying a spirit of resilience amidst the chaos of their circumstances.

This chapter delves into themes of family struggle, emotional complexity, and the challenges of growing up in a world marked by uncertainty, all conveyed through a relatable and engaging narrative perspective.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





World' best ideas unlock your potential

Free Trial with Bookey



Scan to download



Chapter 37 Summary: valentine hearts

Chapter 38 Summary: Valentine Hearts

In this chapter, Valentine's Day serves as a backdrop for Addie's complex emotional landscape, especially her relationship with her stepfather, Dwight. Their encounter outside of school is marked by a mixture of warmth and discomfort. Dwight greets her with affection, offering her valentines from her younger sisters and lunch tickets—tokens of his ongoing support for her well-being. Despite this, Addie's reluctance to engage reveals her inner turmoil.

As they walk together, Dwight attempts to connect with Addie by proposing to give her a bank card for emergencies. However, she rejects this gesture, asserting her independence. The conversation inevitably broaches the subject of family and the struggle Addie faces about visiting her sisters. She grapples with the belief that their shared moments of fun are superficial, unable to mitigate the deeper issues in her life. This internal conflict is palpable as Addie admits to missing her family but feels trapped in her situation, unable to reconcile her feelings with her current reality.

The tension escalates when Dwight tries to offer comfort through a hug, and Addie instinctively recoils, highlighting the emotional distance between



them. This moment exemplifies the strain within their relationship and underscores Addie's internal struggle with familial bonds and her quest for authenticity.

Returning to her trailer, Addie reflects on Dwight's gifts, trying to uplift her spirits by pretending that empty food boxes are filled with real food. She channels her creativity into decorating for Valentine's Day, striving to evoke joy in her surroundings despite her emotional challenges. Sharing a simple meal of tomato soup with her hamster, Piccolo, she finds solace in small acts of kindness towards herself.

This chapter poignantly illustrates themes of family connections, the trials of adolescence, and the quest for genuine relationships amidst the journey of self-acceptance. Addie's resourcefulness and ability to create a sense of home amid adversity resonate as key elements of her character development.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 38 Summary: the goosh in my gut

Chapter 39: The Goosh in My Gut

In this chapter, our protagonist grapples with the anxiety surrounding a possible visit from Dwight, a figure who looms large over their turbulent family life. Fortunately, her mother, Mommers, decisively declines Dwight's request for a visit, preventing any potential conflict. This relief underscores a brief sense of stability in their otherwise chaotic existence.

While putting away groceries, the protagonist reveals her resourcefulness, calculating how many meals they can prepare with their limited supplies. This moment highlights her maturity, as she balances the responsibilities of adulthood despite her young age. The playful banter between her and Mommers adds a light-hearted touch to the scene. Mommers teases her about "mooching" food, providing a glimpse into their close relationship.

However, the mood shifts dramatically when Mommers learns that Dwight's representative, Grandio, has been in their home. Her protective instinct kicks in, leading to a sudden outburst of anger directed at Dwight, who has previously contributed to their challenging living situation. This moment reveals the deep-seated animosity Mommers feels toward Dwight, emphasizing her fierce desire to shield her family from his influence.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

As their conversation unfolds, Mommers expresses her stress about being pregnant, a reality she grapples with by lighting a cigarette despite her daughter's concerns. This behavior illustrates Mommers' internal conflict, as she navigates her own struggles while preparing for the responsibilities of motherhood once more.

The chapter culminates with Mommers asking for help with dinner, a poignant reminder of her reliance on her daughter amidst her challenges. This dynamic reflects the complexities of their family relationship, where both humor and tension coexist.

Key themes resonate throughout this chapter, including the intricacies of family ties, the weight of responsibility, and the struggle between hope and uncertainty. This slice of life captures the resilience of a mother and daughter navigating their harsh realities together, expertly blending humor with the chaos that defines their lives.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 39 Summary: fiesta night

Chapter 40: Fiesta Night

In this chapter, we delve into Addison's daily life, shedding light on her deep connection with her friend Soula, who is courageously battling cancer.

Soula's health issues are evident, her yellowish skin serving as a poignant reminder of her struggle. Despite the gravity of her illness, the two share joyful moments, particularly during meals. Addison finds solace in preparing comfort foods for Soula, especially her beloved tomato soup on toast. Their dinners are lively affairs, animated by spirited debates about healthy eating between Soula and Addison's boyfriend, Elliot, showcasing the warmth and vibrancy of their friendship even in challenging times.

The atmosphere shifts abruptly when Addison's mother, Mommers, bursts onto the scene, bringing a whirlwind of activity with her "Fiesta Night" celebration. This festive occasion includes a colorful array of foods and laughter, yet it also reveals underlying tension. Addison senses that Mommers is using the chaos of cooking to mask her frequent absences and emotional neglect. During their conversation, the emotional chasm between them becomes evident: Addison feels abandoned and fears that Mommers might disappear from her life once again, while Mommers attempts to reassure her, promising that everything will be fine.



As the evening progresses, Addison finds herself overwhelmed, managing to eat just one taco while Mommers indulges in a feast. When it comes time to clean up, Addison's frustration mounts; she feels the weight of responsibility alone as Mommers slumps into a relaxed stupor in front of the TV, oblivious to the mess around them. This moment underscores Addison's isolation and her ongoing struggle to bring stability to her chaotic life.

The chapter highlights key themes such as the importance of friendship, the complexities of caregiving, and the quest for normalcy in unpredictable circumstances. Addison's nurturing relationship with Soula symbolizes the significant support that can emerge from friendship, while her relationship with Mommers serves as a poignant example of the difficulties inherent in dependence and the disappointments that can arise from unmet expectations.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 40: making changes

Chapter 41: Making Changes

In this vibrant chapter, Addie encounters Elliot at the minimart, where the atmosphere is a blend of playfulness and underlying concern for Soula, Elliot's mother, who is currently undergoing chemotherapy. As they chat, Addie expresses her belief that Soula could benefit from a break from her treatments, and Elliot concurs, illustrating the shared challenges that come with navigating illness in a loved one's life.

While working in the store, Addie suggests they uplift the mood by changing the radio station. They switch to a lively country and western channel, transforming the minimart into a lively dance floor filled with laughter and carefree moments. Their playful exchange and dance moves not only highlight their strong friendship but also provide a much-needed escape from the heaviness of life's struggles.

As the day winds down without Soula showing up, Addie leaves her a thoughtful note to check in. After their joyful time at the minimart, Addie heads home, where the arrival of spring reminds her of past friendships and happier times. However, she finds her home in disarray, with her mother absent and responsibilities piling up. Undeterred by the chaos around her,



Addie resolves to take charge by cleaning up after herself and her younger brother, Pic, embodying a new sense of responsibility.

This chapter richly illustrates themes of change, resilience, and the pivotal role of friendships in overcoming life's challenges. Addie's determination to embrace positive changes in both her personal life and her family dynamic shines through her moments of joy with Elliot, as well as her commitment to caring for those she loves.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey



Ad



Try Bookey App to read 1000+ summary of world best books

Unlock 1000+ Titles, 80+ Topics

New titles added every week

- Brand
- Leadership & Collaboration
- Time Management
- Relationship & Communication
- Business Strategy
- Creativity
- Public
- Money & Investing
- Know Yourself
- Positive Psychology
- Entrepreneurship
- World History
- Parent-Child Communication
- Self-care
- Mind & Spirituality

Insights of world best books



Free Trial with Bookey

Chapter 41 Summary: my fault

Chapter Summary: The Fire Incident

In this gripping chapter, our protagonist embarks on what she expects to be an ordinary day. However, her morning routine is abruptly disrupted by an unexpected kitchen accident that ignites a fire in her trailer. Initially enjoying a moment of peace with a cup of cocoa, she is soon engulfed in flames and chaos.

The Fire Begins

The tranquility is shattered when she hears a peculiar noise and detects the scent of something burning. Rushing to investigate, she finds that a frying pan has caught fire. In a frantic attempt to extinguish the flames, she grabs a fire extinguisher but is unable to contain the blaze, which quickly spreads throughout her home. Amidst the chaos, she prioritizes her beloved pet hamster, Piccolo, and successfully rescues him just as her neighbor, Soula, arrives in the nick of time.

Soula's Support

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Soula, a reassuring presence with her stout figure and calm demeanor, quickly pulls the protagonist away from the rising flames. Despite the urgency, the girl feels a heavy burden of guilt, convinced that the fire is her fault. Soula comforts her, emphasizing that the girl's safety is paramount, regardless of the loss of the trailer.

Firefighters to the Rescue

As the sound of sirens fills the air and fire trucks pull up, the protagonist grapples with her emotions, especially her fear for the firefighters' safety because of her mistake. Displaying resourcefulness, she alerts the crew about an electrical hazard linked to the nearby Laundromat, an action that highlights her quick thinking in a crisis. The firefighters commend her for preventing an even larger disaster, alleviating some of her guilt.

Reflections on Courage and Mistakes

In the aftermath of the incident, the protagonist reflects on the repercussions of her actions, understanding how a careless mistake can lead to calamity. Yet, she recognizes the essential lesson of staying calm in times of crisis and the significance of community support. Soula and the firefighters exemplify

More Free Book



Scan to Download

this as they ensure everyone's safety and well-being.

As rain begins to fall, it serves as a cleansing gesture, symbolically washing away the trauma of the day. The girl's journey is one of growth, as she confronts her fears, processes her guilt about the fire, and appreciates the warmth of human connection. Ultimately, she learns that resilience and support from others can help navigate even the most challenging circumstances.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 42 Summary: a hero in the fog

In Chapter 43, titled "A Hero in the Fog," the aftermath of a devastating fire leaves Addie grappling with a whirlwind of emotions. Her home has been reduced to ashes, and amidst the chaos, supportive friends like Elliot step in to help. He offers warmth by distributing coffee to the firefighters and brings Addie slippers, but her mind is preoccupied. Dressed only in a bathrobe and draped in a heavy rubber coat for warmth, Addie feels a sense of numbness as she processes the destruction around her.

As the smoke thickens and the stench of charred remnants fills the air, the reality of her situation sinks in. Mr. and Mrs. Rose, local community members, check on her welfare. Meanwhile, an unfamiliar woman, Mrs. Casey from the Department of Youth and Family Services, enters the scene, highlighting the severe implications of her mother's absence. This intervention unveils a harsh truth for Addie: her fragile circumstances have been exposed.

Emotions escalate when Addie learns that Soula, her trusted guardian figure, was the one who sought help. This revelation fills Addie with conflicted emotions; she grapples with feelings of resentment towards Soula for making that choice, yet the strength of their bond is undeniable.

As Addie prepares to leave with Grandio, a significant figure in her life, she

More Free Book



Scan to Download

requests him to look after her pet, Piccolo. Soula watches with tears, lamenting her decision to involve authorities. In a moment of compassion, Addie reassures Soula, igniting a small flame of hope amidst their turmoil.

In a touching farewell gesture, Addie traces the word "HERO" in the fogged-up window of the car, conveying a message of strength and solidarity to Soula in this challenging time. The chapter paints a poignant picture of friendship, the complexities of growing up, and the difficulties within support systems, all set against the backdrop of emotional turmoil and chaos.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 43 Summary: after the fire

Summary of Chapter 44: After the Fire

In this chapter, Addie grapples with the aftermath of a devastating fire that has destroyed Dwight's trailer. As she sits amid the wreckage, anxiety grips her, prompting a call to inform Dwight about the incident. Although he is understandably shocked by the destruction, Dwight's primary concern quickly shifts to Addie's well-being, a testament to the deep affection he holds for her. This moment underscores the theme of love and support that runs throughout their relationship.

While Addie laments the loss of her personal belongings, including cherished items and her bank card, her worries are momentarily alleviated when Grandio, her supportive family member, takes the phone to explain the situation to Dwight. His involvement highlights the family's unity in the face of adversity, further offering comfort to Addie.

Later that evening, Addie finds solace at Grandio's home, enveloped by the warmth of family. Despite the chaos earlier in the day, there is a surprising sense of positivity. Grandio, in high spirits, cooks for the gathering, and the Littles—young family members who are curious about the fire—seek her out for comfort. Dwight's humor and playful demeanor serve to lighten the



atmosphere, allowing Addie to momentarily forget the day's troubles and restore a sense of normalcy.

As the night wears on, the comforting presence of those around her makes Addie feel safe and weary. Leaning against Dwight, she intuitively seeks his closeness, which he readily reciprocates, reflecting the strength of their bond. The chapter concludes with a profound sense of security and warmth, reinforcing the essential themes of community, resilience, and the unyielding support that loved ones provide during challenging times.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 44: something familiar

Chapter 45: Something Familiar

In this chapter, the protagonist finds herself navigating a new life at Grandio's farm, following recent upheavals. Helena, her close friend from her old school, and her mother arrive to deliver a thoughtful box of secondhand clothes from the room mothers, a gesture that underscores the support network surrounding the protagonist despite her current difficulties. Their brief reunion is filled with warmth as they sift through the clothes—some worn from memories, others potentially unwelcome. Nevertheless, there's a bittersweet atmosphere, as both women understand that this meeting might be one of the last for a significant period.

As their conversation unfolds, the protagonist's worries surface, particularly regarding her mother, Mommers. Grandio reveals troubling news: Mommers may be in jail and is currently barred from seeing her daughter. This revelation adds a layer of tension and emotional complexity, painting a vivid picture of the strained family dynamics and the consequences of Mommers' choices on the protagonist's sense of security.

During dinner, the protagonist's yearning for her pet hamster, Piccolo, emerges. Despite Grandio's reservations about keeping a pet on the farm, the



protagonist's emotional attachment to Piccolo represents her desire for stability and familiarity amidst chaos. After some deliberation, Grandio concedes and agrees to let her keep Piccolo, offering a glimmer of hope in an otherwise challenging environment.

Overall, this chapter weaves together themes of friendship, complex family relationships, and the quest for comfort through familiar connections, all while maintaining an engaging and approachable tone.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





Why Bookey is must have App for Book Lovers



30min Content

The deeper and clearer interpretation we provide, the better grasp of each title you have.



Text and Audio format

Absorb knowledge even in fragmented time.



Quiz

Check whether you have mastered what you just learned.



And more

Multiple Voices & fonts, Mind Map, Quotes, IdeaClips...

Free Trial with Bookey



Chapter 45 Summary: the going-away note

In Chapter 46, titled "The Going Away Note," the narrative plunges into a poignant moment of loss as Addie returns to the minimart, eager to reconnect with her friend Soula. This chapter unfolds against a backdrop of grief and remembrance, emphasizing the impact Soula had on Addie's life. The atmosphere shifts dramatically when Addie learns from Elliot that Soula has passed away. The news shatters her excitement and leaves her grappling with disbelief, as she struggles to reconcile the vibrant life Soula led with the reality of her absence.

Driven by a mix of hope and desperation, Addie rushes to the Greenhouse, where she cherishes memories of Soula. However, instead of finding her friend, she is confronted with the stark emptiness of the papasan chair that used to be filled with Soula's laughter and spirit. Elliot steps in to provide solace, explaining that Soula's death was due to her illness, alleviating some of Addie's fear that it may have been caused by the tragic fire that had recently disrupted their lives.

Overwhelmed by emotion, Addie allows herself to grieve not only for Soula but also for her own losses and family struggles. In a moment of tenderness, Elliot presents Addie with a heartfelt letter from Soula, along with an envelope filled with cash intended to support Addie's dreams. The letter reflects Soula's deep affection and encourages Addie to pursue her passion



for music, specifically mentioning her desire to hear Addie play the flute.

These heartfelt words ignite a spark of hope within Addie, reflecting the eternal bond they shared. Elliot, with a lighthearted comment about keeping Soula's spirit alive by speaking of her in the present tense, helps Addie find a sense of comfort amid her sorrow. Together, they embark on a journey to find Addie a new flute, symbolizing the resilience of hope and the continuation of dreams even in the face of loss.

As Addie sits with her pet Piccolo, she contemplates the profound impact of Soula's love and guidance, realizing that those who have passed remain a part of her. This chapter encapsulates the themes of love, loss, and the importance of honoring the memories of those we cherish, portraying a beautiful narrative of enduring spirit and connection.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 46 Summary: defining normal

In Chapter 47, titled "Defining Normal," we delve into Addie's ongoing journey of healing as she adjusts to life with her grandfather, Grandio, following a series of traumatic upheavals. Rather than dwell on grief, Grandio attempts to nurture Addie through small gestures, such as treating her to double scoops of ice cream, showcasing his caring but also revealing his own turmoil regarding Addie's mother, Mommers.

Amidst the comfort, Addie grapples with a profound fear of losing those she cherishes, particularly her new pet, Piccolo. When Grandio inadvertently references Mommers and the serious legal complications she faces, related to child endangerment, it triggers Addie's emotional turmoil. The tension heightens with Mommers' unexpected arrival in her blue car, seeking to reconnect with her daughter despite the undercurrents of their fractured relationship.

Their brief encounter is laden with confusion and sorrow. Mommers reveals her regrets about the past, while Addie articulates her yearning for "normal" — a concept she equates with safety, predictability, and familial unity. However, Mommers reflects that "normal" is an elusive ideal, one that may always be out of reach, yet she holds on to hope for the future.

As this poignant conversation unfolds, Grandio's sudden interjection forces

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Mommers to leave, amplifying Addie's internal conflict as she is caught between her desire for a maternal connection and the reality of their dysfunctional family dynamics. Grandio's subsequent outburst about Mommers intensifies Addie's distress, pushing her to assert her need for silence regarding her mother. In a moment of understanding, Grandio respects her request, allowing them both to absorb their turbulent emotions.

This chapter poignantly illustrates Addie's quest for continuity and love amidst the chaos of her life, exploring the complexities of familial relationships and the longing for a sense of belonging in a world marked by uncertainty and loss.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 47 Summary: full of surprises

In Chapter 48 of "Waiting for Normal," titled "Full of Surprises," the narrative blossoms in the warmth of May, heralding a season of joy for the protagonist, Addie. The chapter immerses us in Addie's life as she receives frequent visits from Dwight, Hannah, and their children. These gatherings bring a renewed sense of happiness, even as wedding plans seem uncertain. Observing the tender moments shared between Dwight and Hannah, particularly Brynna's radiant happiness, reassures Addie about their relationship, alleviating her worries.

As the chapter unfolds, Addie enjoys the company of her close friends and family, making cherished memories with Elliot and Rick. Their trip to the mall is a delightful escapade filled with snacks and the excitement of buying a new CD player. Among her purchases, Addie chooses an Irish tin whistle, igniting her passion for music with dreams of eventually mastering the piccolo, symbolizing her aspirations and creativity.

Amidst these joyful experiences, Addie confides in Mrs. Casey about her dreams of a family, expressing her longing to live with her sisters and Dwight. Despite her uncertainties about the future, she clings to the hope of discovering what "normal" could feel like for her—a desire for connection and belonging that resonates throughout her journey.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

The chapter takes a transformative turn in early June. While tending to marigolds, Addie's world shifts dramatically when Dwight arrives with a life-changing surprise—the adoption papers that officially make her his daughter. Overwhelmed with joy, Addie embraces this milestone, marking a pivotal moment in her journey toward a stable and loving family life. Together, they celebrate this new chapter, embodying the theme that life can hold unexpected and wonderful surprises.

Through this chapter, the themes of love, belonging, and the importance of chosen family are poignantly illustrated, culminating in a moment of profound joy and excitement for Addie.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 48: all to home

Chapter 49: All to Home

As summer vacation approaches, Addie makes the pivotal decision to complete her school year at Borden School, representing a new era of stability in her life. This marks a significant transition as she begins to acclimate to the notion of moving to a new home. During her ride back to Lake George with Dwight in his pickup truck, she experiences a whirlwind of emotions while tightly clutching Piccolo's cage. This symbolizes her connection to her past, particularly memories of Soula and the warmth of familial bonds that endured even after the upheaval caused by the fire that disrupted their lives.

In a heartfelt moment, Dwight offers Addie comfort by gently covering her hand with his, and they share a meaningful smile that hints at their deepening relationship. Addie reflects on her mother, Mommers, and the enduring love that persists despite the hurdles they face, prompting her to wipe away tears as she cherishes joyful memories that linger amid her sadness.

Upon arriving home, Addie is met with exuberant cheers from her sisters, Brynna and Katie, who proudly present a handmade banner that reads “ALL

More Free Book



Scan to Download

TO HOME ADDIE!” This heartfelt gesture brings her immense joy and reassurance, reinforcing her sense of community and belonging. Surrounded by the warmth of her family's love and laughter, Addie feels ready to embrace this new chapter of her life with hope and enthusiasm.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





★ ★ ★ ★ ★
22k 5 star review

Positive feedback

Sara Scholz

...tes after each book summary
...erstanding but also make the
...and engaging. Bookey has
...ling for me.

Fantastic!!!



I'm amazed by the variety of books and languages Bookey supports. It's not just an app, it's a gateway to global knowledge. Plus, earning points for charity is a big plus!

Masood El Toure

Fi



Ab
bo
to
my

José Botín

...ding habit
...o's design
...ual growth

Love it!



Bookey offers me time to go through the important parts of a book. It also gives me enough idea whether or not I should purchase the whole book version or not! It is easy to use!

Wonnie Tappkx

Time saver!



Bookey is my go-to app for summaries are concise, ins curated. It's like having acc right at my fingertips!

Awesome app!



I love audiobooks but don't always have time to listen to the entire book! bookey allows me to get a summary of the highlights of the book I'm interested in!!! What a great concept !!!highly recommended!

Rahul Malviya

Beautiful App



This app is a lifesaver for book lovers with busy schedules. The summaries are spot on, and the mind maps help reinforce wh I've learned. Highly recommend!

Alex Walk

Free Trial with Bookey