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# THE GHOST OF GOSSWATER

Lucy Strange

## CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER RESOURCES

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[chickenhousebooks.com](http://chickenhousebooks.com)

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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross Curricular Opportunities

45

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

46

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

Write a book review!

