*Tracks*: Classwork & Homework : **Chapter 5** Questions

**Due: Monday, August 17** (or as close to as you can. I will aim to upload new chapter questions each week, and will chuck him some extra things to read here and there. This week it’s just the three chapters’ worth of questions to complete.)

Please read the “Chapter 5 Summary.pdf” first to reacquaint you with what happens in the chapter.

\* **please note: the “Extension” questions are optional. If you choose not to, then please consider the questions in your mind brain.**

**Please also note: while there are lots of questions, many of them are short/easy**

5.1 Do you consider the example of anthropomorphism at the bottom of page 79 ‘true’? Or is she projecting?

5.2 Using page 80 as a guide, **compare** the attitudes Robyn and Charlie have to money, and what underlies their attitudes.

5.3 Record this quote “He [Rick] also talked me into writing to *National Geographic* for sponsorship.”

**Discussion:** *First: let’s get to the bottom of this one!*Do you think it is fair that she puts this onto Rick (without the extra knowledge that she had already written to *NG* – remember, we need to stay within the text)? Why do you think she does make this point? Should she take responsibility herself?

**Note:** the placement of this comment about Rick and *National Geographic* and having to ask for money, a page after her talking about hating being in debt and not wanting to ask for money.

5.4 What things had Robyn never done before she arrived in Alice Springs (p.81 – half way down). This is good information to use in terms of **character development** – it allows for three points of comparison: her life before, where she’s at now, and later we can reflect on how she has grown (useful to include these three notes after the quote).

**5.5**  Write a paragraph discussing Robyn’s character and what we learn about her from her first ‘trip’ with camels to Utopia – pp84/85 – 87, consider the following: what challenges does she face? How does she deal with them? What might this trip foreshadow or suggest about her upcoming trek? How does she use hyperbole/exaggeration? Why do you think Jen & Toly didn’t seem to struggle nearly as much as Robyn does?

EXTENSION 5.1 / THINKING QUESTIONS  
a) Do you think Robyn is a ‘bourgeois individualist’? – (you will need to read pages 88-89 to answer this) -   
b) In what way is the “internal landscape” the realm of the female? What do you think is meant by this? And what is Robyn’s answer? What does she feel men would benefit from?

5.6 *on page 90* – Why was the trip “beginning to lose its simplicity”?

Thinking/Discussion question:What is your opinion on Robyn’s acceptance of the *National Geographic* money “I had no choice” – did she have a choice? Do you feel, given her strong convictions against taking the money (in hindsight) that she should have taken the money?

Discussion*:* Do you believe her trip always was “a personal and private gesture”? (e.g. was it something bigger? At what point does it become ‘something bigger’? Is she being genuine or disingenuous?)

5.7 Record the quote from p.91 “what I wanted to do…” until “interference whatsoever”  
what does it show?

5.8 Briefly outline the two sides of Robyn that are present on page 92.

Extension 5.2/Thinking & Discussion question:  
Using quotes from the text, explain what we learn of Robyn on page 93 – how do we/you feel about her after reading this? (e.g. Should she have treated Rick as a machine and not a human being? Do we sympathise with her after these admissions? Do we appreciate her honesty (knowing it would probably alienate her from some of her readers))?

5.9 How does Robyn describe/characterise Rick on page 94? (use words/quotes from text).

**Discussion:** What do you think about the questions she asks herself on page 94? Do you agree/disagree with any of them?

5.10 Literary Technique: What is the effect of the simile “there to grow and fester like botulism” (p.94) on the reader? How effective is this quote, and what might it foreshadow?

5.11 on 98 she gives one of the few memories of her family, and her mum – why does she do it at this point in the narrative? What do we learn? What does it add?  
**Theme: family** (non surrogate)

**Extension 5.3**- **textual feature**: record the quote/literary allusion from the poem *Hurrahing in Harvest* by Gerard Manly Hopkins “I walk, I lift up, …”

Extension 5.4: **Good textual features and connection to *Charlie’s Country***  
a) Discuss the use of Romantic language on paged 101 – using some quotes, how does the description of her external, physical environment mirror her internal environment at this point?  
  
b) How does she a use contrasting style (of writing) to ‘break out’ of this moment, and how does this relate to an exploration of artificial/human worlds?  
  
**Note:** This can be compared to how de Heer consistently explores how Charlie’s external physical environment affects his internal environment:  
- His dissatisfaction is closely connected to the influence of colonial ‘intervention’ in his community – juxtaposition of shots of nature vs shots of the suburbanisation of his community – police-station, alcohol sign at start, fried-food;  
- Being in the natural world ‘out-bush’ brings him peace and contentment; until…  
- the rain echoes his emotional turmoil at inability to live authentically as his ancestors did;   
- The hospital – artificial/Western setting then leads to his strongest show of emotion;  
- the ‘long-grasser’ life in Darwin (city – symbol of Western development) and the mise-en-scene to highlight this negative/destructive way of living;  
- Back in his native environment the wide peaceful shots of nature and close-ups of insects, including Charlie’s new campfire with the bush-background echo Charlie’s ‘more’ contented state of mind (internal environment);  
  
**and others I’ve missed? How does Prison fit into this? Does it fit, or challenge this idea?**  
  
= *Charlie’s internal environment is consistently influenced by his physical environment*

5.12 Comment on the ending to the chapter – do you believe she knew this at the time? Or is this insight endowed with the power of (two years) hindsight? = **narration** (as a textual feature)