

The Green Children of Woolpit

Discussion Questions

Agnes is reluctant at first to investigate the crying that no one else can hear. What are some reasons for this? Why does she eventually decide to follow the sound?

Who are Those Good People? Why does Agnes call them this? What names do we give these creatures?

Describe how Agnes feels about stories. How does this make her life difficult? How does it help her?

How does Senna convince Agnes that Agnes is the lost princess of the kingdom under the mountain? Do you find the Senna's story believable? Why does Agnes believe when her life in Woolpit is more or less stable?

On p. 66, Agnes says, "I may tell stories, but I'm no liar." What's the difference between lying and making up a story? Do you think this has changed since the middle ages?

Over the course of the book, we learn more about Senna's motivation for treating Agnes the way she does. Does this new information change your opinion of Senna? Why or why not?

The fairy folk in *The Green Children of Woolpit* are very different from similar creatures in modern movies and TV. Why do you think the author decided to make her fairies cruel? Why do you think we view fairies in the way that we do?

What do you think about the bargain that the king under the mountain offered to Senna's people during the Roman invasion? Is it fair? Why do you think Senna took the bargain? Would you?

How does Agnes escape from the kingdom under the mountain? What does she have to do, and what does she have to give up? Would you make the same decisions?

Why do Senna and Agnes work together once Agnes returns to Woolpit?

Describe some of the clues that the author gives throughout the story that suggest Mother is not an ordinary pig.

Why do you think Senna tried to trick Agnes instead of simply asking her for help? What does this tell us about the person Senna was, and the person she is becoming?

Do you think Senna and Agnes will end up friends?

This book is based on an actual story written down by monks during the middle ages. Would you describe this book as historical fiction? Would you describe it as a fairy tale?