

Subj: Beauty booknotes
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BEAUTY By: Robin McKinley

SETTING: In a house which backed to a great, mysterious forest which no one passed thru. Beauty's family lived in a four room house in a town called Blue Hill in a region called Goose Landing. In the beginning, the story took place in the city.... A three month journey from Blue Hill. (Blue Hill had deep hills on one side and forests at the front and back.) The story also took place in the Beast's castle.

CHARACTERS:

- *Honour – nickname Beauty, the clever one, could “get around” father best, eyes muddy hazel, hair neither blond nor brown, thin, awkward, the book starts when she is 13, mother died two years after Beauty was born in childbirth
- *Grace – 1 year older than Beauty, beautiful, graceful, hair butter yellow, tall and slim, good-hearted, married to Robbie
- *Hope – hair rich chestnut-brown, eyes smokey green, tall and slim, good-hearted
- *Mercy – youngest child who died 2 weeks after her mother gave birth to her
- *father – Roderick Huston, merchant, wealthy son of a shipwright (had gone to sea when he was 10 years old), labeled jinxed after his misfortune, past 60,
- *Lady Marguerite – mother, red gold hair, amber eyes, 17 when married
- *Robert Tucker – promising young captain married to Grace, blue eyed, black hair, 28, ship he sailed on is the White Raven
- *Gervaine Woodhouse – nickname Ger, Hope's husband, ironworker in Father's shipyard and later a blacksmith in the town of Blue Hill, not grand, born and raised far inland, safe, sensible, birthplace – Goose Landing
- *Greatheart – big grey stallion, Beauty's horse given to her by Tom Black, rather than being auctioned off, big strong horse, horse's mother died while giving birth so Beauty bottle fed Greatheart, would only follow orders from Beauty
- *Melinda Honeybourne – Ger's aunt, widow, owner of the Griffin (bed or board)
- *Orpheus – canary, took the family several months to name him
- *Ferdie – liked Beauty, Ger wants to train him in the smith trade
- *Mercy/Richard – Hope's twins
- *Frewen – friend of Father's in the city
- *Odysseus – father's horse
- *Beast – 7 ft, gentle voice, human eyes (A Beast has no honour).
- *Miss Dixon – Beauty's first governess
- *Lydia/Bessie- invisible servants in the castle
- *Mr. Pat Lawrey – minister that is in love with Grace
- *Molly/John – children of Melinda's

QUESTIONS

- *...does a character shun company and prefer books?
- *...does a character dream of becoming a scholar and going to a university?
- *...does a character avoid society and mirrors?
- *Robert Tucker set out on a voyage that was three years long.
- *Name of the ships were the White Raven, Stalwart, Fortune's Chances. These four were driven apart by a sudden storm.
- *...does a man feel that if he cannot care for his wife as she deserved, than he was not a fit husband for her?
- *...were a father's ships sunk in storms or captured by pirates?
- *...were a family's lands and house to be auctioned off.
- *Their house in town had eighteen rooms, including a ballroom.
- *...was it thought that goblins, dragons, and magicians lived in a forest?
- *Horses are the only thing that will take Beauty away from her Greek poets.

- *How long was the journey to Ger's new home? 2 months by wagon
- *...had the lack of a blacksmith in the town, been the chief topic of conversation?
- *...did a family have to promise never to walk in the woods behind the house without companionship?
- *The forest is enchanted, the stream flows out of the forest.
- *The first blacksmith disappeared one day, the second smith left because he didn't like the noises the forest made.
- *...does a girl ask her father to bring back some rose seeds for her.
- *...does a father appear to have lost 15-20 years from his age?
- *What did father take from the castle grounds to cause the Beast much displeasure? rose
- *How much time did the Beast give Father, to come back with his daughter? 1 month
- *Detail of what the Beast put into Father's saddlebag: wax candles, a linen tablecloth, several bottles of wine, gold, silver, copper, small wooden boxes ("G", "H", "B"), earrings, sapphires, rose seeds.
- *Also in Beauty's box was a gold ring shaped like a griffin with it's mouth open.
- *It is the spring when Beauty goes to live with the Beast.
- *Who did Beauty take with her? Braveheart
- *What did Beauty carry in her pocket and what did she feel comforted by? Griffin ring
- *...did a girl feel as if "the air was listening"?
- *...did a little table walk over from nowhere, no clocks or mirrors, candelabra's lit themselves, enchanted soap, enough books to read for a lifetime, portrait gallery
- *The beast wanted Beauty at the castle because he was lonesome, and lacked companionship.
- *How long had the beast been at the castle? 200 years
- *What did the Beast say every night at the moment of parting? "Will you marry me, Beauty?"
- **...does the library contain books that haven't been written yet?
- *Why did it take Greatheart 15 minutes to cross a courtyard 200 feet wide? Because he saw the beast and was instinctively frightened.
- *...does one character teach another character how to chew?
- *...does a girl continue to recall a small house set just before the forest, with hundreds of beautiful, climbing roses?
- *...were birds expressly forbidden in a garden, but returned? (Was she spell weakening?)
- *...did plates and trays and glasses speak to one another in an odd language?
- *Why did Beauty get so upset at Lydia and Bessie? Because they were dressing her as a queen and she did not feel that way.
- *How long do the enchanted roses live after they've been cut? 1 month
- *The beast let Beauty see her family from a thick plate of glass on a small table. There was a cloudy grey swirling, like water, that cleared slowly.
- *How long did the beast give Beauty to return to her home? 1 week
- *What did the beast ask Beauty to "wear" home? Her ring
- *What does the beast send to Beauty's family? Dreams
- *What were the words that made the beast transform at the end? "I love you, and I want to marry you."
- *The prince speaking: "I was laid under an enchantment to live as a dreadful beast until some maiden should love me in spite of my ugliness, and promise to marry me."
- *The "prince turned into beast" was the young man in the last picture, in the gallery of pictures. It was caused because of an old family curse by a local magician.

QUOTES

- "He always felt sorry for families who looked like petals from the same flower." Beauty repeating what her father had said.
- "You are safe here, in my castle and anywhere on my lands."
- "I have not always been as you see me now."
- **"She's never known anything but books and horses since she was a baby."

Name the 4 ships that Father sent out:

White Raven, Stalwart, Windfleet, Fortune's Chance