

Ida B...and her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster, and (Possibly) Save the World

Katherine Hannigan

Characters:

Ida B. Applewood – An imaginative girl who talks to trees

Ida Applewood – Ida B's mother. Gets cancer

Evan Applewood - Ida B's father

Rufus – Ida B's daddy's floppy-eared dog. Has a drooling problem

Lulu – The Applewood family's cat

Ms. Washington – Ida B's fourth grade teacher.

Ronnie DeKuyper- a boy in Ida B's class. He's small, blond and runs faster than anyone in the grade. Ida B helps him learn the times tables. Keeps asking Ida B. to play dodgeball at recess.

Claire deLuna- A friendly girl in Ida B's class. Her family buys a portion of the Applewoods' land. Calls Ida B. "mean" after Ida B. shouts at her and her little brother.

Calvin Faribault – A big-headed boy in Ida B's class who, according to Ida B, thinks he's too fine for his own reflection

Questions:

1. Where does Ida B. live? Lawson's Grove, Wisconsin
2. What does Ida B. say there is never enough time for? Fun
3. Who are Viola, Gertrude, Paulie T. and Beatrice? Trees that Ida B. talks to
4. What upsetting rumor does Paulie T. share with Ida B.? That something bad is heading her way.
5. Why do Ida B.'s parents take her to the doctor? They think she is very ill because her face turns colors. They don't know that she has irritated her skin by making a "soap mask" from dishwashing liquid.
6. Who says "We are the earth's caretakers? Ida B's father
7. Who says, "I think the earth takes care of us too"? Ida B.
8. What does Ida B. eat for breakfast every single day? Hot rolled oats with raisins and milk, no sugar.
9. What does Ida B. eat for lunch every single day? Peanut butter on one slice of bread, milk, and an apple.
10. What does Ida B. eat for dinner every day? Whatever her parents are fixing, and lots of it. Unless it's lima beans and Brussels sprouts.
11. What does Ida B believe is the best way to maximize fun, avoid disaster, and possibly, save the world? Good plans
12. How long does Ida B. attend kindergarten? Two weeks and three days
13. Where does she go to school after she leaves kindergarten? She is home-schooled by her parents.
14. Why are Ida B's parents so sad and quiet at breakfast one morning? Her mother has found a lump.
15. What does the lump have in it? Cancer
16. What does Ida B. do with her mother's hair that has fallen out? She keeps it in a bag under her pillow.
17. What does the old tree tell Ida B? "It will be all right"
18. Why did Ida B's daddy have to sell part of the orchard and some of the farmland? To pay for her mother's hospital bills.
19. Is Ida B. happy about the sale? No.
20. Why does Ida B. have to go back to school? Because her father can't take care of the farm by himself and teach her and her mother is too tired.
21. What happened to Ida B's heart as she cried? It turned into a sharp, black stone.
22. What resolution does Ida B. make? Not to like school, the people who buy the land, her teacher, the kids in her class, riding the bus, or her parents.

23. What does Ida B. do to the old tree in her anger? She kicks it
24. What color clothes does Ida B. wear on her first day back at school?
Black
25. What is the name of the school Ida B goes to ? Ernest B. Lawson
Elementary School
26. What is the name of Ida B's teacher? Ms. Washington
27. What grade is Ida B. in? Fourth
28. What does Ida B call the school bus? The Yellow Prison of Propulsion
29. What plan does Ida B have to try to scare away the people who have
purchased her family's lots? She makes signs and posters warning of
dangerous and deadly things.
30. What does Ida B do every day at recess? She sits on the steps
31. What does Ms. Washington ask Ida B every day? "Anything you want to
talk about, Ida?"
32. What did Ms. Washington need Ida B's help with? Helping Ronnie learn
his times tables
33. Who gets to be the first "guest reader" in class when Ms. Washington's
voice is tired? Ida B
34. What book does Ida B read to the class? "*Alexandra Potemkin and the
Space Shuttle to Planet Z*"
35. How did reading the story out loud in class make Ida B feel? Happy
36. Who's family has bought the Applewoods' land? Claire de Luna
37. What does Ida B shout at Claire? " You are not allowed on my land! Go
away!"
38. How does Claire respond when Ida B shouts at her? She tells her she is
mean.
39. Does Claire try to get revenge? No
40. What do Ida B's parents want to do with the south field? Plant some new
apple trees and make it Ida B's orchard.
41. What did Ida B. decide to do after talking to Ms. Washington on the
stairs at recess? apologize to Claire
42. Where did Ida B apologize to Claire? In front of Claire's new house
43. What did the old tree say to Ida B? "Always"
44. What did Ida B finally agree to do after Ronnie asked her for the one
hundred and fourteenth time? Play dodgeball at recess
45. What request does Ida B's mom make? For Ida B to someday read her
the story that she read at school.

In What Book...

Does a girl talk to trees?

Does a father say, "We are the earth's caretakers"?

Does a mother get cancer?

Does a dog named Rufus have a slobbering problem?

Does a family have to sell a portion of their land to pay for the mother's hospital bills?

Is a girl upset about having to go back to school when her mother gets sick with cancer?

Does a girl call herself "Superhero Deluxe, Friend of the Downtrodden, Foe of Cancer, Meanness, Mindless Destruction, and Traditional Schooling?"

Does a girl say that apologizing is like spring cleaning?