

Guinan/English 8

# The Light in the Forest by Conrad Richter

When John Cameron Butler was a child, he was captured in a raid on the Pennsylvania frontier and adopted by the great warrior Cuyloga. Renamed True Son, he came to think of himself as fully Indian. But eleven years later his tribe, the Lenni Lenape, has signed a treaty with the white men and agreed to return their captives, including fifteen-year-old True Son. Now he must go back to the family he has forgotten, whose language is no longer his, and whose ways of dress and behavior are as strange to him as the ways of the forest are to them. Will he be able to fully return to ways of his former enemies?

THE LIGHT IN THE FOREST

BY CONRAD RICHTER

FRAGARINA

**Assignment**: Read the novel.

Also: How fast can you type? Work on this skill over the summer. <a href="http://www.typingtest.com/">http://www.typingtest.com/</a> The site also has effective typing games for practice. High school students should aim for at least 45-50 words/minute.

Directions: Read THE COMPLETE NOVEL OVER THE SUMMER. BY THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, COMPLETE the following questions, IN COMPLETE SENTENCES. QUESTIONS FOR CHAPTER 10-15 WILL BE DUE SECOND WEEK OF SCHOOL. LOOK FOR THE ASSIGNMENT TO POST ON GOOGLE CLASSROOM.

If an item has more than one question, you needn't answer every item separately. SEE CHAPTER 2, #1 for an example

### Chapter 1

- 1. What is the point of view of chapter 1?
- 2. What is the setting? (time and place)
- 3. How old was True Son when he was adopted by the Indians? For what reason was he adopted? How many years does he live among the Indians?
- 4. What is True Son's reaction when he is told by his Indian father that he must return to his birth family?

5. What is the point of view of chapter 2? What does the shift indicate about how this story will be told?

## Chapter 2

- 1. Who is Del Hardy? What duty is he supposed to carry out?

  Del Hardy is the guard from the army who carries out the return of the white prisoners including True Son to the colonists.
- 2. What is the reaction of the white captives when they are released by the Indians to the whites? What is the reaction of the Indians as they give up their captives?

# **Chapter 3**

- 1. What is the May apple? Why does True Son wish to eat it?
- 2. Who accompanies True Son on the trail? What does he give him? Why?

## Chapter 4

- 1. Read the first four pages of chapter 4. Write a paragraph that summarizes all the ways the whites are different from the Native Americans, according to the boys. Directly quote the novel to support you answer.
- 2. Why does True Son attack the guard? What advice does Half Arrow give his cousin afterwards? What does the river True Son then crosses symbolize?

#### Chapter 5:

1. Describe using phrases from the text how True Son acts when he meets his birth father.

### Chapter 6

- 1. Describe True Son's escape attempt.
- 2. Describe True Son's initial reaction to the stairs.
- 3. What did the white man's clothes symbolize according to True Son?
- 4. How did Gordie endear himself to his brother?

## Chapter Seven

- 1. How did Aunt Kate convince True Son (John Cameron Butler) to dress in white man's clothes?
- 2. What impression do we have of Uncle Wilse by the end of this chapter?

#### Chapter Eight

1. What does Bejance mean when he tells Gordie that he and the other whites aren't really free?

## **Chapter Nine**

- 1. In Who's point of view is Chapter 9 told?
- 2. Why was the parson paying a visit to the Butler home?
- 3. A little backstory: describe what had occurred eleven years earlier that caused Myra Butler to become an invalid.