

The Prisoner of Zenda

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While reading

Chapter 1

1 Answer these questions.

- Who is to be made an ambassador?
.....
- Who is travelling on the same train as Rassendyll?
.....
- Who speaks German and French, as well as English?
.....
- Why does Rassendyll decide to stop at Zenda?
.....
- Which two people look surprised when they see Rassendyll?
.....

Chapter 2

2 Who says these? To whom? What are they talking about?

- 'Open it! It's the very last one.'
Who: To whom:
What:
- 'I'd give a thousand pounds to see Brother Michael's face when he sees a pair of us!'
Who: To whom:
What:
- 'Then we are all brothers of the sword.'
Who: To whom:
What:

Chapter 3

3 Finish these sentences.

- Marshal Strakencz is
- Sapt ties Johann's mother up with a cloth in her mouth because.....
- The guards close round Rassendyll as they enter the Old Town because
- Josef is left to
- Sapt tells Rassendyll about the King's life while
- The Duke of Strelsau meets Rassendyll

Chapter 4

4 Answer these questions.

- What happens after the coronation?
- What happens where the road divides?
- What has happened at the lodge?
- What does Sapt persuade Rassendyll to do? Why?

Chapter 5

5 How do you know these sentences are true? Find the sentences in the book to support these statements.

- Rassendyll finds it difficult being king.
.....
- Michael's 'Six' are loyal to him.
.....
- Rassendyll is glad he was shot in the hand.
.....
- Rassendyll finds Flavia attractive.
.....
- Flavia recognizes a change in the king.
.....
- The king is still alive.
.....

Chapter 6

6 Answer these questions.

- Why does Sapt think the King is in the Castle of Zenda?
- Why doesn't Rassendyll throw the letter away?
- What is Michael's plan?
- How does Rassendyll escape from the summer house?

Chapter 7

7 Who says these? Who is meant by the word in *italics*?

- 'You must offer *her* marriage when you speak to *her* tonight.'
Who: *her*:
- 'Whatever *you* were, I should love *you* just the same.'
Who: *you*:
- 'Unless you want me to become a criminal as well, let us go to Zenda and crush *him*.'
Who: *him*:
- 'I won't share in any plan to make a fool of *her*.'
Who: *her*:
- 'I love *you* more than life – or truth – or honour!'
Who: *you*:

Chapter 8

8 Put these events in order, 1–5.

- ☐ Rassendyll takes Fritz to dine at the small hotel he stayed at on his first night in Ruritania.

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- b ☐ Duke Michael offers Rassendyll one hundred thousand pounds to leave the country.
- c ☐ Rassendyll meets Rupert Hentzau for the first time.
- d ☐ Johann falls into the trap.
- e ☐ Rassendyll is wounded.

Chapter 9

9 Find the mistakes and correct them.

- a Rassendyll kills the man who guards the room where the King is prisoner.
.....
- b Rupert escapes on his horse into the forest.
.....
- c Princess Flavia travels to Zenda because the leading doctors are not allowed to look after the wounded King.
.....
- d The Chief of the Strelsau Police thinks that Rassendyll may have left the country.
.....

Chapter 10

10 Match the two parts of the sentences.

- a Rupert makes a proposal to Rassendyll
- b The king is the only person not to know that
- c Michael locks Antoinette de Mauban in her room because
- d Rassendyll and his men decide to try to free the king because
- e If Rassendyll's plan does not work, Marshal Strakencz must announce that
- f Rassendyll does not think
- 1) his plan will succeed.
 - 2) Flavia is Queen.
 - 3) he is very sick.
 - 4) he doesn't want Rupert to get into the room.
 - 5) he is engaged to be married to Flavia.
 - 6) on the day of Lauengram's funeral.

Chapter 11

11 Put these sentences in order, 1–8.

- a ☐ Rassendyll kills de Gautet and Bersonin.
- b ☐ Rassendyll fights Detchard.
- c ☐ Rassendyll watches Rupert swim across the moat and into the castle.

- d ☐ The king is cut down by Detchard.
- e ☐ Antoinette calls for help.
- f ☐ The doctor dies.
- g ☐ Rupert arrives on the drawbridge.
- h ☐ Rupert leaps from the window into the moat.

Chapter 12

12 Answer these questions.

- a Who shoots at Rupert?
.....
- b Who is 'graceful but without honour'?
.....
- c Why does Rupert come back to the castle?
.....
- d Why is Rupert able to run faster than Rassendyll?
.....
- e Who jumps into the moat?
.....

Chapter 13

13 Find the sentences in the book that have the same meaning. Who says them? To whom?

- a 'The people must not know.'
.....
Who: To whom:
- b 'You will always be the only one I love.'
.....
Who: To whom:
- c 'If love were the most important thing, I would not stay.'
.....
Who: To whom:
- d 'The person who is best suited to the job doesn't always get it.'
.....
Who: To whom:

After reading

14 What do you think will happen to Flavia and Rassendyll after he left the country? Choose a or b, and write a letter.

- a You are Rassendyll. You write to Flavia to tell her how you are doing in England. You miss her.
- b You are Flavia. You write to Rassendyll to tell him you are unhappy with the King. You miss him.

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I Match the name with the description or action.

- a Rudolf Rassendyll
 - b Rudolf the Fifth
 - c Flavia
 - d Colonel Sapt
 - e Fritz
 - f Duke Michael
 - g Marshal Strakencz
 - h Antoinette de Mauban
 - i Rupert Hentzau
 - j Detchard
- 1) This person is the prisoner of Zenda.
 - 2) This person is an Englishman, who looks like the new King of Ruritania.
 - 3) This person is an Englishman, who works for Duke Michael.
 - 4) This person thinks Rassendyll is rather like him.
 - 5) This person falls in love with Rassendyll.
 - 6) This person falls in love with Countess Helga.
 - 7) This person is Duke Michael's mistress.
 - 8) This person protects Flavia while 'the King' is away hunting 'the wild pig'.
 - 9) This person gets killed by Rupert Hentzau.
 - 10) This person interrupts Rassendyll when he tries to tell the truth.

2 Put these events in order, 1–6.

- a ☐ Rassendyll meets the King in the forest.
- b ☐ Rassendyll meets Flavia in the forest.
- c ☐ Rassendyll meets Antoinette de Mauban at the summerhouse.
- d ☐ Rupert Hentzau kisses Antoinette de Mauban.
- e ☐ Rassendyll kills Detchard.
- f ☐ Rassendyll gives Flavia a ring.

3 Choose the right answer.

- a Why did Rassendyll want to visit Ruritania?
 - 1) To visit his friends there.
 - 2) To see the coronation.
 - 3) To become a king.
- b Who has black hair?
 - 1) Rudolf.
 - 2) Flavia.
 - 3) Michael.
- c How many of Michael's famous Six were guarding the prisoner of Zenda?
 - 1) Two.
 - 2) Three.
 - 3) Four.

- d Why didn't anyone say anything about Rassendyll's handwriting?
 - 1) Because people were afraid of him.
 - 2) Because he didn't have to write anything.
 - 3) Because his finger was wounded.
- e Who does Antoinette de Mauban love?
 - 1) Rudolf Rassendyll.
 - 2) Duke Michael.
 - 3) Rupert Hentzau.

4 Complete the sentences with the words from the box.

ambassador bowed carriage coronation
determined drawbridge earnest moat
procession revolver

- a The date of the had been suddenly brought forward.
 - b The old and the new parts of the castle were joined by a
 - c Flavia thought the King seemed much more on the coronation day.
 - d The Chief of the Strelsau Police came to Zenda at the request of the British
 - e Rassendyll saw a coming from the Castle of Zenda.
 - f First came two servants on horseback, then a funeral and, behind it, a man in plain black clothes.
 - g Rassendyll was to bring the King back.
 - h Detchard was not wearing his when Rassendyll came to rescue the King.
 - i Rupert Hentzau jumped over the bridge into the when Antoinette de Mauban started to shoot him.
 - j Hentzau to Rassendyll and rode off at full speed.
- ## 5 Circle the right words in *italics*.
- a 'The Path to Heaven' is a *ladder / pipe*.
 - b On the night of the first attempt to save the King, it was *dark and stormy / fine and clear*.
 - c Rassendyll gave Flavia a *wedding / family* ring.
 - d After Rassendyll goes back to England, he meets *Flavia / Fritz* in a small town near the Ruritanian border once a year.
 - e Rassendyll still exercises himself with *sword / revolver* as he might meet Rupert again.