# Study Guide: Chapter 11 - A Test of Trust

## Summary

In Chapter 11: A Test of Trust, Amelia and the children face the villagers’ suspicion and fear. The shifting wind and warnings from the elders heighten tension as the group approaches the village. The villagers, wary of Amelia, demand proof that she is not a spirit or omen of misfortune. Jace, Emily, and Tyler stand by her side, offering their loyalty and defending her with stories of her bravery and survival. Amelia demonstrates her humanity and humility by speaking directly to the elders, admitting her hardships and asking for trust rather than fear. The chapter ends with uncertainty but also a glimmer of acceptance as some villagers soften, while others remain cautious.

## Vocabulary

suspicion - a feeling that someone may be guilty of wrongdoing

tension - nervousness or worry between people or groups

cautious - careful to avoid danger or mistakes

misfortune - bad luck or unlucky events

humanity - the quality of being human or showing kindness

humility - a modest or humble view of oneself

proof - evidence that shows something is true

elders - older, respected members of a community

acceptance - agreement to allow someone into a group

loyalty - strong support or allegiance to someone

bravery - courage in facing danger or difficulties

soften - to become less harsh or severe

warning - a signal or statement of possible danger

spirit - a supernatural being or ghost

admit - to confess or say something is true

courage - the ability to face fear or difficulties

community - a group of people living together

fearful - feeling afraid or anxious

respected - looked up to and valued by others

uncertainty - not knowing what will happen next

## Comprehension Questions

1. What natural sign made the villagers uneasy at the beginning of the chapter?

2. Why were the villagers suspicious of Amelia?

3. How did the children defend Amelia in front of the villagers?

4. What did Amelia say to the elders to show her humanity?

5. How did the villagers respond by the end of the chapter?

## Answer Key

1. The shifting wind, which the villagers considered a bad sign.

2. They feared she might be a spirit or bringer of misfortune.

3. They stood by her side and told stories of her bravery and survival.

4. She admitted her hardships and asked for trust instead of fear.

5. Some softened and began to accept her, while others stayed cautious.

## Themes

- Trust and suspicion

- Community and belonging

- Bravery in the face of fear

- The struggle between tradition and change

- Loyalty and support among friends