

How to print this booklet

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Orientation	Landscape
Print on both sides	On (two-sided / duplex)
Flip on	Short edge
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Pages	All

THEN

1. Take the whole stack out of the printer. Keep the sheets in order.
2. Fold the stack in half, so this page is on the outside.
3. Staple twice along the fold.



Make another at didtheyreallyread.com

Reading Journal

My thoughts, chapter by chapter

Reader:

Book Title:

Simon Sort of Says

Author:

Erin Bow

Date Started:

Date Finished:

Keep reading. Keep wondering.
Created by didtheyreallyread.com

How to Answer

Your answer does not have to be perfect. Just answer in complete thoughts and use details from the chapter.

How to structure your answer

A strong answer usually has a few parts. Try these steps:

1. **Answer the question.** Start with one sentence that answers the question directly.
2. **Give an example.** Add a detail or moment from the chapter that shows what you mean.
3. **Explain why.** Tell why it mattered, or how it made you think or feel.
4. **Wrap it up.** Finish with a closing thought, a question, or a prediction.

How does living in Grin and Bear It, inside a radio-quiet zone, affect Simon in this chapter?

Example answer: In this chapter, the radio-quiet zone makes Simon's life feel very different from a normal town. I think it gives him some space because people cannot connect and spread information in the usual way. At the same time, it can make ordinary things harder and stranger. The setting is important because Simon is trying to figure out who he is when the outside world is quieter.

Chapter 43

After this chapter, what is one unfinished question you have about Simon, his friends, or the town? Why do you want to know the answer?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

How to Answer (continued)

How does humor sit beside serious feelings in this chapter? Give one example of each if you can.

Example answer: The humor in this chapter keeps the story from feeling too heavy all the time. I noticed that Simon can describe strange or awkward things in a funny way, even when he is dealing with painful memories. The serious feeling is still there underneath the jokes. To me, that makes Simon feel real, because people sometimes use humor when they are scared or sad.

What does this chapter make you think about privacy and the right to tell your own story?

Example answer: This chapter made me think that privacy is not just about hiding something. For Simon, it is also about being allowed to decide what parts of his life belong to him. I can understand why he would not want everyone to define him by one terrible thing that happened. The book shows that telling someone's story without permission can hurt, even if people are curious or think they mean well.

Chapter 1

What important problem or choice is Simon facing so far, and why does it matter to him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 42

What do you think will matter most in the next chapter: a relationship, a secret, a plan, or a problem? Explain your prediction.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 41

What part of the chapter felt realistic to you, even if the setting or situation was unusual?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

How does living in Grin and Bear It, inside a radio-quiet zone, affect Simon in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

Which detail about Simon’s past seems most important right now, and how does it shape the way you understand him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 40

Compare two characters’ ways of handling stress. How are their reactions alike or different?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 39

What lesson might Simon or another character be starting to learn in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

What does this chapter show about how Simon wants other people to see him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

How is Agate helping, challenging, or surprising Simon so far?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 38

How has your opinion of Simon changed since the beginning of the book? What caused that change?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 37

What does this chapter make you think about privacy and the right to tell your own story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

What role does Kevin play in Simon’s life in this part of the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

Choose one funny moment or odd detail from the chapter. How does it change the mood of the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 36

Find a moment when a character tries to control a situation. Why do you think that character wants control?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 35

How might Simon’s past influence the way he reacts to people in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

What question would you ask Simon if you could talk to him after this chapter, and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

Which adult seems to understand Simon best so far? Use evidence from what that adult says or does.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 34

What seems unfair to Simon in this part of the story? How does he respond to that unfairness?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 33

Which character had the strongest emotion in this chapter, and how could you tell?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

What is Simon trying not to say, think about, or be known for in this part of the book?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

How does the author use the unusual town setting to create problems, humor, or comfort?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 32

What do you wonder about Grin and Bear It and its community after reading this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 31

How does Simon’s voice as narrator affect the way you understand events?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

Pick a word or phrase that stood out to you in this chapter. What do you think it means, and why did it catch your attention?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

What does Simon’s narration reveal about his feelings that he might not say out loud to other characters?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 30

What symbol, object, animal, or place seems meaningful in this chapter, and what might it represent?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 29

What does silence mean in this chapter: safety, loneliness, peace, secrecy, or something else? Explain your thinking.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

What prediction can you make about Simon’s attempt to have a more normal life? What clues support your idea?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

In this chapter, where do you notice grief, fear, or healing? Explain the moment and why it matters.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 28

How does the book show that people can be kind and still make mistakes?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 27

Which scene from this chapter would be most important to include in a movie version? Explain what viewers would learn from it.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

How do rules about phones, radio signals, or technology shape what can happen in this part of the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

What do Simon’s choices in this chapter tell you about courage?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 26

What new information in this chapter changed your understanding of a character or situation?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 25

If you could give Simon advice at the end of this chapter, what would you tell him and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

How does humor sit beside serious feelings in this chapter? Give one example of each if you can.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

What do you think Agate wants or needs at this point in the story? What makes you think so?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 24

What is one thing this chapter suggests about friendship? Use Simon, Agate, Kevin, or another character in your answer.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 23

How does Simon’s relationship with his parents seem right now? What details show closeness, worry, or misunderstanding?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 20

What does Kevin seem to value, based on his actions or words so far?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 21

Describe a moment when Simon feels noticed, watched, or hidden. What does that moment reveal about him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 22

What conflict appears most important in this chapter: a conflict inside Simon, between characters, or with the community? Explain your choice.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
