

My Brother Sam is Dead

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Novel Study by: (your name here)

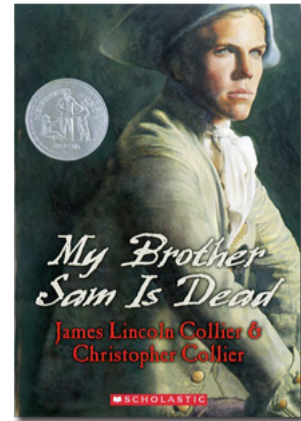
Chapters 1-2

Understanding The Story

1. When Sam, Tim's brother, returns home who does he say has beaten the British?
 - (a) The Tories.
 - (b) The Minutemen.
 - (c) New York Rebels.
 - (d) The Lobsterbacks.
2. Tim's father's name is Eliphalet. What nickname is he known by?
 - (a) Liffy.
 - (b) Let.
 - (c) Eller.
 - (d) Life.
3. How does Eliphalet Meeker react when Sam returns home from Boston?
4. What did you learn about Tim and his family by reading Chapters 1 and 2?
5. Do you think real families during the Revolution disagreed about the conflict? Why or why not?

Chapter Summary

1. If you were to give a title to this section of the book, what would it be?
2. What happens in these chapters?
3. What is your favorite part of this section of the book?
4. What new words did you learn in these chapters?



Chapters 3-4

Understanding The Story

1. How does Tim's father react when a customer calls King George a "great hairy fool"?
 - (a) He laughs and agrees with him.
 - (b) He throws the man's mug at him.
 - (c) He pushes him out of the door and into the street.
 - (d) He tells Tim to give him a free meal.
2. What is a Brown Bess?
 - (a) A kind of cow.
 - (b) A gun.
 - (c) A powderhorn.
 - (d) A style of military jacket.
3. In Chapter 3, how does Tim describe his life as the son of a tavern-keeper?
4. 4. A group of Rebels show up at the tavern. What do they want and what does Tim do?
5. Tim thinks the Rebels showed up in Redding for a particular reason. What is it?

Chapter Summary

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Chapters 5-6

Understanding The Story

1. What happens in January of 1776 that makes running the tavern difficult?
 - (a) Rebels are stealing livestock.
 - (b) Mrs. Meeker's health begins to fail.
 - (c) Mr. Meeker goes off to fight the Rebels.
 - (d) They have to pay more for the things they sell.
2. Where does Tim secure the item he is supposed to deliver to Fairfield?
 - (a) Inside his shirt.
 - (b) In his back pants pocket.
 - (c) In his empty canteen.
 - (d) In his ha
3. What are the Rebels doing around the Redding area that upsets the farmers?
4. Mr. Heron asks Tim to deliver something to Fairfield. What is the plan and how does it go wrong?
5. Who does Tim go fishing with in Chapter 3?

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Chapters 7-8

Understanding The Story

1. What are Tim and his father taking to Verplancks Point?
 - (a) Chickens.
 - (b) Cut beef and pork for the British soldiers.
 - (c) A supply of grain for the Rebels.
 - (d) Live cattle.
2. Who travels with Tim and his father to Verplancks Point?
 - (a) Tom Warrups.
 - (b) A scout.
 - (c) An escort.
 - (d) A fur trapper.
3. Explain what happens when Tim and his father are stopped in the road by six cow-boys on the way to Verplancks Point.
4. Who are the Platts and what did you learn about them in Chapter 8?
5. Where is the town of Peekskill located?

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Chapters 9-10

Understanding The Story

1. In Chapter 9, why does Mr. Meeker ride ahead and then come back to see if Tim is alright?
 - (a) Tim was feeling sick and his father wants to check on him.
 - (b) He is looking for Sam but doesn't want to lose track of Tim.
 - (c) He has lost their way and is looking for another cattle drive ahead.
 - (d) He is looking for cow-boys.
2. What crime do the people of Redding commit if they pray for the King in church?
 - (a) Treason.
 - (b) Arson.
 - (c) Perjury.
 - (d) Conspiracy.
3. Give a specific example from Chapter 9 or 10 that shows how ordinary people might have grown tired of the war.
4. How does life change for Tim and his mother after Mr. Meeker disappears?
5. Who is killed by British soldiers at the end of Chapter 10?

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Chapters 11-12

Understanding The Story

1. According to Tim, why was his father taken prisoner?
 - (a) He attacked a Rebel soldier.
 - (b) He was selling beef to the British.
 - (c) He was spying for the Tories.
 - (d) He betrayed Mr. Heron to the Rebels.
2. What was the ultimate fate of Tim's father?
 - (a) He got lost and died in a snowstorm trying to get home.
 - (b) He was shot and killed by a Rebel captain.
 - (c) He died of starvation in a prison in Canada.
 - (d) He died of disease on a British prison ship
3. Mrs. Meeker does not let Tim ring the church bells to call the Rebels together to go after the British. Do you think her actions are right or wrong? Why?
4. In Chapter 12, how do we know that Tim is turning against the war and against both sides?
5. Why does Sam tell his mother, "a starving man will steal food from babies"?

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Chapters 13-Epilogue

Understanding The Story

1. Who does Tim have to see to get permission to visit with Sam?
 - (a) Captain Betts.
 - (b) Colonel Parsons.
 - (c) General Putnam.
 - (d) Mr. Heron.
2. Where does Tim and his mother move to after the Revolutionary War?
 - (a) Canada.
 - (b) Pennsylvania.
 - (c) New York.
 - (d) Ohio.
3. Why did few of the Revolutionary War battles take place in winter?
4. What did you learn about Tim by reading the Epilogue? What does he say about the Revolutionary War?
5. How do the British execute Sam?

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