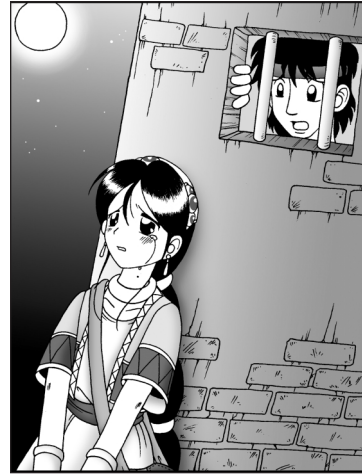


6

Chapter Six: *Beneath the Prison Walls*



Vocabulary

exaggerating

scribe

innocent

jealous

confidence

hero

Facts and Details: Literal Meaning

1. Who consoles Ariadne after she leaves the prison?
2. Where does Theseus promise he will take Ariadne upon escaping Crete?
3. What does Theseus want Ariadne to get for him?
4. Where is Theseus' sword hidden?
5. Who confirms to King Minos that King Aegeus has a son?

What's Going On?: Reading Comprehension

1. Why is Ariadne upset after visiting the women hostages?
2. How does Theseus persuade Ariadne to consider his plea to help the Greek hostages?
3. What does Ariadne ask her father to consider?
4. According to Theseus everything has changed for him. In what way?
5. How does Theseus know the ship will not be sailing back to Athens in the morning?

In your own words...

What is the dilemma that Ariadne must resolve? Can you think of other stories, myths or legends that involved a character who is faced with a dilemma? How do you solve your own dilemmas? Give an example and explain how you chose to resolve your conflict.

If you are unable to think of a personal example write about a dilemma experienced by someone else you know or someone in the news.

Background and Additional Information

How did the scribe know Aegeus had a son? Lydian traders brought the news. Lydia is nowhere near Athens, but, of course, traders would go all around the Mediterranean and, even if they didn't go to Athens, they would gossip with other traders who had recently been there.

In fact, the first newspapers were written for traders, and mostly told what ships were in port, what ships had sailed, what they carried and how much various products were selling for. But they also had news of wars, of changes in governments, of crops ruined by weather, of shipwrecks and of other factors that could effect business. Soon, people who were not merchants and traders began to read these papers to find out what was going on in the world. Over the years, these publications began carrying more and more news of interest to the general public. But the roots of those old newspapers remain very much alive in the fact that a good story is one tells how the news in it effects people's lives, including how they make a living!

Multidisciplinary Connections

(Social Studies/English Language Arts)

Theseus is regarded as a hero for his feats. What are the qualities of a hero? Select a historical figure heralded as a hero of war. Create a poster display and write a biographical essay about this person. Describe his/her accomplishments and feats. Present to class. List common attributes of a "hero."

Newspaper Activity

Ariadne is struggling with an important issue. Every day people are informed about things in their community. Often a decision must be made to resolve an issue. Find an example of a community issue that has not yet been resolved. Write an editorial. Present both sides of the issue supported by facts and make an argument for the decision you feel should be made to solve the problem.

Skill Builder

Have students create their own title for the chapter based on the main idea.

AUTHOR'S NOTES

It's fun to be able to work on two levels, to write a story in such a way that adults will begin to pick up subtexts young readers won't, and yet to have the story work on each level. It's good that Ariadne stopped outside the prison and didn't run to the palace to cry, but Theseus knew he would eventually get to talk to her again. What young readers probably won't pick up is that Korinna and the other women were schooled in their roles, and that Theseus intended to turn up the heat on Ariadne's guilt. Watch for more of these moments, which will become clear to the kids later on. (Shhhh!)

Chapter 6: Answer Key

Facts and Details

1. Theseus
2. To Athens
3. His sword
4. On board the ship
5. The scribe

Reading Comprehension

1. She felt ashamed that she had expected the female hostages to welcome her. She realizes how naive she was to think they would want to befriend her.
2. He flatters her, promises to take her away, and tells her it is not right for her father to kill

innocent people.

3. Ariadne asks her father if sending the son of King Aegeus to the Minotaur would compensate for the loss of her brother and put an end to the yearly sacrifice. *(She doesn't reveal that the son is among the hostages -- though she could!!)*
4. Theseus tells Ariadne that he had planned to bribe a guard rather than seek her help. But once he realized how amazing she was, he changed his mind and wanted her to leave Crete to go to Athens with him.
5. Theseus and the Greek crew planned a delay in order to keep the ship in Crete.