

# 7

## Chapter Seven: *The Sword in the Ship*



### Vocabulary

traitor  
quivered  
hilt  
ivory  
keen

### **Facts and Details: Literal Meaning**

1. What needed to be repaired on the Greek ship?
2. What does Theseus tell Ariadne to do to in order to signal the Greek sailors to begin a quarrel?
3. What does Ariadne use to help her find her way to the ship?
4. What is missing from the sword?
5. Who is Ariadne to meet in the courtyard?

### **What's Going On?: Reading Comprehension**

1. Why does Ariadne believe she would be treated harshly by her father if she were caught helping the Greeks?
2. What are the Greek sailors fighting about and why?
3. In what way does the Magic Thread protect Ariadne?
4. Why does Ariadne believe that few would dare ask her what she is doing out at night?
5. What might Ariadne think has happened to Theseus?

### **In your own words...**

Theseus has Ariadne retrieve his sword, which, "had the look of a weapon that had seen use over many years." Do you have something that has been handed down through generations, an heirloom or family treasure of some type? What is its significance? What do you have that you would like to keep and pass on to future generations of your family?

## **Background and Additional Information**

*The newspaper activity for this chapter asks students to write a classified advertisement.*

*Classified advertisements are advertisements in a section of the paper divided into classifications such as, "Automobiles for Sale," "Help Wanted" or "Homes for Rent." Many individuals place classified ads, but they are also used by realtors, automobile dealers, auction houses and other businesses. Classified ads are usually sold by the word or the line.*

*Often reporters and editors find story ideas by looking at the classifieds.*

## **Multidisciplinary Connections**

(Art)

Build a model of a Greek ship. Don't forget the steering oar!

(Technology/Social Studies)

This story is set in the Bronze Age. Research how tools and weapons like Theseus's sword in the Bronze Age differed from similar Stone Age and Iron Age implements. What does the story suggest about bronze swords? Would this limitation of bronze matter during the Bronze Age? How do changes in technology change history? Find positive and negative examples.

## **Newspaper Activity**

Write a classified advertisement to sell Theseus' sword or write a classified advertisement to sell the Labyrinth. Be concise, creative and descriptive.

## **Skill Builder**

**Search the chapter for prepositional phrases. Circle each preposition in two prepositional phrases.**

## **AUTHOR'S NOTES**

*Two important story elements here: This is the first time we've seen Ariadne use the thread outside the Labyrinth, and there is sophistication in how the thread operates. We also begin to realize how much Theseus has planned this operation. He hid the sword in a place that would be concealed until the steering oar was removed for repair, and he has the crew set to provide a distraction the moment Ariadne appears. I wanted an Alfred Hitchcock feel to the story, not in the scary sense but in the sense of an innocent, likeable character getting into an increasingly complicated situation.*

## **Chapter 7: Answer Key**

### **Facts and Details**

1. The steering oar
2. Toss a pebble
3. The thread
4. No sheath or belt
5. Theseus

### **Reading Comprehension**

1. She believed he would treat her harshly to demonstrate his fairness.

2. The Greek sailors were pretending to quarrel over a dice game to distract the Minoan guards.
3. The thread unwound and helped her safely find her way to the ship.
4. Ariadne is a princess and is rarely questioned about what she is doing. People may fear upsetting her father by offending her.
5. She might fear that Theseus has been apprehended by a Minoan.