



TITLE: Room 13

AUTHOR: Robert Swindells

INTEREST AGE: 8-12 Years

BOOKBAND: Dark Red

OUR REVIEW: Enticing new cover for this popular spooky thriller.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS:

CHAPTER 1

- What are stalactites? How do they affect the appearance of the gate?
- What was strange about the words that Fliss heard in the nightmare?

CHAPTER 3

- Why were the seats that the teachers were sitting on “the best seats”?
- What does “punctuating her words” mean?
- Explain “like a man cut down from the whipping post.”

CHAPTER 4

- Explain the appearance of speech marks in the middle of the paragraph starting “Fliss looked out...”
- What time of year is the trip taking place? Give reasons to support your answer.
- What does “treeless desolation” mean?

CHAPTER 5

- What is a “three minute warning”?
- What does a “lull in conversation” mean?
- Why was the hotel vaguely familiar to Fliss?

CHAPTER 6

- Write out the first paragraph as seven sentences, adding extra words if needed. Which version of the paragraph is more effective? Why?
- Draw an accurate picture of the view seen from the bedroom window.

CHAPTER 10

- Is there any part of this chapter that may have an effect on the rest of the story? If so, which part and why?

CHAPTER 14

- What is meant by “Fliss resolved to ask Mrs Wilkinson about her”?
- Who do you think the lady might be? Is she important to the story?
- Find the words in the chapter that mean the same as:
 - a) Become aware
 - b) Never likely
 - c) Speak quietly
 - d) Looked
- Look at the illustration on Page 73. What do you think is going to happen in this chapter?

CHAPTER 15

- How does the author alter the style of writing on page 74?
- Why were the children not too worried about informing Mr Hepworth?

CHAPTER 18

- What was Mrs Wilkinson's reasoning behind Ellie-May's sickness?
- Is there any information in this chapter that gives us more understanding of what has been happening in the house?
- What is "ancient masonry"?

CHAPTER 21

- Who tried to wake Ellie-May?
- Why did she cup her mouth with her hands?
- What did Gary mean when he said "Here comes the Cavalry"?

CHAPTER 24

- What has Fliss worked out by the end of the chapter?
- Are the torch, the stick of rock, a pebble and the kite significant to the outcome of the story?

CHAPTER 25

STOP READING AT "VAMPIRE SHOULD WAKE"

- What do you think is going to happen now?
- Why did Ellie-May seem better that day?

CHAPTER 28

- Did the story end as you expected?
- What were the most exciting parts of the story?
- What was the problem and how was it resolved?
- What do you think would have happened to the relationship between the main characters as a result of their experience?
- Which characters were victim or heroes?
- How would you feel if you were in Fliss' situation and not able to get any adults to believe you?
- Would you recommend this book to a friend?
- How does it compare to other ghost stories that you have read or heard?

Other books by Robert Swindells include...

