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**The Glass Castle Study Guide**

**Welch: Chapters 9 to 15 (pages 164 to 192)**

1. Why does Rose Mary call Welch “the fightingest town she’d ever seen”? (Welch 9)

2. Describe the Battle of Little Hobart Street? Who is involved? What starts it? How is it resolved? (Welch 9)

3. How has reading for the Walls family changed in Welch vs. Battle Mountain? What kind of books does Lori like? Why does she like them? What kind of books does Jeannette like? Why does she like them? (Welch 10)

4. Rex comes home late one night after everyone but Jeannette is asleep. What condition is he in? What does he mean when he says “I got in a fight with a mountain, and the mountain won”? What do you think really happened? What does he ask Jeannette to do? How does she respond? (Welch 10)

5. When Rex is around, what does he say is his new moneymaking/invention scheme? Moreso than ever, how does Jeannette react to Rex’s stories? (Welch 11)

6. Explain the ham incident. How do Jeannette and Brian supplement their food supply? What do they discover about Rose Mary and food? (Welch 11)

7. When winter first arrives in Welch, what is Jeannette’s reaction? What challenges do the Walls face in the winter? Who is Iggy and what happened to him? (Welch 12)

8. What is the kerosene incident? Describe the mythological allusion in the following quote: “ ‘Just remember,’ Mom said after examining the blisters, ‘what doesn’t kill you will make you stronger.’ ‘If that was true, I’d be Hercules by now,’ Lori said.” (Welch 12)

9. What happens when Jeannette goes to Carrie Mae Blankenship’s house? (Welch 12)

10.What is the definition of “pious”? Why did Rose Mary get pious? (Welch 13)

11. When Erma dies, Rex says “She was my mother, for God’s sake. You kids. You make me ashamed. Do you hear me? Ashamed!” Why is his statement ironic? (Welch 13)

12. Why does Jeannette get angry when the man from bar who is driving her and Rex home says, “For the daughter of the town drunk, you sure got big plans.” (Welch 13)

13. What is the incident involving Uncle Stanley and Jeannette? How does Rose Mary react? (Welch 13)

14. When Brian and Jeannette find the diamond ring, they want to sell if for food, but Rose Mary overrules them and keeps it, saying: “It could also improve my self-esteem. And at times like these, self-esteem is even more vital than food.” How does that quote fit with Rose Mary’s character? What does it say about her?

15. How is Rose Mary’s behavior changing? How are the children, especially Jeannette changing in their views of their family life and parents? (Welch 14)

15. Explain the segregation at the swimming pool. When does Jeannette feel more comfortable going and why? Why is it ironic when she says, “I’d never felt cleaner.” (Welch 15)