

Fallen Angels

Study Questions

Directions: You should use these questions to help guide your reading. Write an answer to each question on separate paper and in complete sentences. These study guide questions will be due on the first Friday of the school year 2012.

Chapters 1- 2

- 1 . What is the destination of the narrator, Richard Perry? Why is he headed there and how does he feel about going?
2. Give the date and identify of the first two people Perry meets. Where are Perry and the others from?
3. Why didn't Perry go to college?
4. How does Peewee Gates feel about the army?
5. What does "Rings" want the other Black men to do and why? How do Perry and Peewee respond?
6. What rumor about the war circulates among the new men?
7. What is Perry's explanation for the United States' presence in Vietnam?
8. *What are the orientation lieutenant's instructions to the new men? Why are they important?
9. Who is "Charlie?" What other names apply?
10. Begin a list of acronyms: GI, HQ, DDT, RPG. Add others as they appear in the book.

Chapters 3- 4

- 1 . What is the name of the company to which Perry, Peewee, and Jenkins are assigned? Where are they headed?
2. Begin a chart giving data about the important characters. *Note: Perry, Jenkins, Peewee, Johnson, Carroll, Simpson, Monaco, Brunner, Brew, Lobel, and Walowick.*
3. *What do Perry's flashbacks reveal about him? Why are the flashbacks important?
4. *What event symbolizes the reality of war? Why?
5. What is "Willy Peter?"
6. *What type of public relations work does the platoon do? Is this important?
7. *Who is Capt. Stewart and why is he important to the platoon?
8. Acronyms: MOS, VC, ARVN.

Chapters 5-6

- 1 . What do Walowick and Peewee argue about?
2. Add information about characters to your chart. *In this section, note especially Carroll and Brunner.*
3. What does Perry relate about his family?
4. What assignment does Alpha Co. receive?
5. How do the men react before going into battle?
6. What question troubles Perry?
7. *How does Lobel escape the reality of Vietnam? Does this help?
8. *What happens on Alpha Co.'s patrol when accompanied by the TV crew? Should the TV crew be there?
9. Acronym: LZ.

Chapters 7-9

- 1 . Who is Jamal?
2. Why do Johnson and Walowick fight?
3. What does Peewee ask Perry to do? Why? Describe the results.
4. *What part of the nighttime prayer does Perry omit? Why?
5. Why is Perry assigned to Charlie Co.? What happens?
6. What does Lt. Carroll give Perry? Why?
7. What is a pacification mission? How does Capt. Stewart feel about this type mission?
8. Why does Brew's praying bother Perry?
9. To what does Lobel compare the soldiers?
10. Add to character chart as information is revealed.
11. Why did Lobel join the army? How does his father feel about Lobel's duty in Vietnam?
12. *How do the Viet Cong react after a U.S. pacification mission? Does this act as a deterrent?

Chapters 10-12

- 1 . What are Simpson's plans for Alpha Co.? Why?
2. What are the results of the ambush?
3. Who prays the final prayer over Lt. Carroll?
4. *What task does Sgt. Simpson ask Perry to do? How does he feel about this?
5. How do the men of Alpha Co. react to Carroll's death?
6. What does Carroll's letter to his wife reveal about their plans?
7. Who becomes the new platoon leader? What is his first goal?
8. What effect does the letter from Perry's mother to Peewee have on Perry? Why?
9. What are sappers?
10. How does Sgt. Simpson feel about Capt. Stewart?

Chapters 13-14

- 1 . *Why does Capt. Stewart seem disappointed that the opposing sides are working toward a truce?
2. What indicates acceleration of fighting?
3. What does Capt. Stewart volunteer Alpha Co. to do? What is the result?
4. What mistake does Perry make?
5. *Why does Capt. Stewart call for Perry? What is the result? Why does he choose Perry?
6. What is Alpha Co. assigned to do? Who is in charge?
7. What do they find when they get to the village?
8. *What happens when Perry encounters a Viet Cong in a village hut? How does it make him feel?
9. Acronyms: KIA, NVA.

Chapters 15-17

- 1 . *Describe the base at Tam Ky. How do you think the men feel about being at this base?
2. How long does Simpson have before his duty in Vietnam is over? What does Stewart ask of him?
3. Why doesn't Gearhart order the squad to fire on the VC (Viet Cong) during the ambush?
4. How does Perry feel about Jamal?
5. *What does Simpson decide to do? How do others react?
6. Why do Simpson and Stewart fight?

7. Identify punji sticks and spider holes.
8. In the second patrol for Alpha Co., what happens to Perry and Brew?
9. Describe Perry's injuries.
10. *What does Perry consider doing when his orders to rejoin his unit arrive? Why? 11. What changes have taken place when Perry returns to Alpha Co.? 12. Add the following acronyms to your list: PX, AWOL.

Chapters 18-20

1. What does Perry feel is different about Johnson?
2. *Explain Dongan's role. Why does he act as he does?
3. *What does Peewee tell Perry to do if he (Peewee) dies in the war? Why?
4. What thoughts about dying go through Perry's mind?
5. What happens in the battle of Phuoc Ha Two? What do they do with the dead bodies?
6. *Why is Perry afraid of the dead men?
7. What effect does the carnage have on Perry? On Jamal?
8. *Does Perry think the war is right? Explain.
9. *What is the reported body count in their last fight? Do you think this is correct? Why or why not?
10. Will Capt. Stewart now make major?

Chapters 21-23

1. What is the next destination for Alpha Co.? How many men from Perry's squad are left?
2. *What is the goal of this patrol? Why?
3. Where are the Viet Cong hiding? What happens?
4. What are Perry and Peewee ordered to do? What happens?
5. *How many grenades does Perry have left? What does he plan to do with them? Why?
6. Where do Peewee and Perry spend the night on the ridge? What happens?
7. What is Perry's concern as he tries to pray?
8. What do Perry and Peewee find when they come down from the ridge?
9. Who does the chopper rescue? What is their condition?
10. Of the men of Alpha Co., who survives? Who dies?