***Holes***

***Chapter 47***

***Summary and Analysis:***

***Summary:***

As the sun comes out, the lizards crawl away from Stanley. Zero asks him if his first name is his last name spelled backwards. Mr. Pendanski arrives with a woman and a man. The woman says she is Stanley's lawyer and tells the Warden that she will file charges against not only the Warden but also against the entire state of Texas if anything bad happens to Stanley. The Warden says that Stanley stole the suitcase that Zero is holding. The lizards scurry away and the Warden tries to take the suitcase from Zero but he says it belongs to Stanley. Zero shows everyone the other side of the suitcase where the name Stanley Yelnats is printed.

***Summary (45-47):***

Just as the Warden comes toward Stanley in his hole, she stops. The boys are surrounded by deadly yellow-spotted lizards. Stanley is actually standing in a lizard nest. The counselors begin talking about someone who is going to ask a lot of questions. The Warden doesn't care what happens as long as she has the suitcase. The leaders stand there, waiting for the boys to die from the lizard bites.

Mr. Pendanski says that maybe they should just shoot the lizards since the boys are going to die anyway and it won't matter since there are plenty of graves to dig them in. The group comes up with a story that Stanley was crazy and delirious and that's why he couldn't have been released. The counselors shout down to Stanley that he might like to know that he is innocent before he dies. Stanley's lawyer had come to camp to get him out. Stanley isn't really paying attention because he is thinking about his mother and playing with her in the snow since that's what he wants to be his last memory. Even with lizards swarming all around them, Zero gives Stanley the "thumbs-up" sign.

Zero and Stanley stand in the hole with the lizards for several more hours and all the while Zero is sounding out letters, finally asking Stanley if he spells his last name like he spells his first name, only backwards. Cars arrive, and a woman and man come to the side of the hole. The woman claims that she is Stanley's attorney. The Warden says that the boys snuck into her cabin and stole her suitcase before falling into the lizard's hole. The boys finally climb out of the hole, realizing the lizards are not going to bite them now since they haven't done it all night. The Warden rushes up to Zero hugging him and grabbing the suitcase, threatening to press more charges against Stanley for theft until Zero says that the suitcase belongs to Stanley. The name on the case does, indeed, spell Stanley Yelnats.

***Analysis (45-47):***

The foreshadowing of the yellow-spotted lizards is played out in full as the boys' lives are threatened by the deadly reptiles.

Stanley's efforts to teach Zero to read end up helping him and Zero is able to prove that he is not dumb, but actually capable of outsmarting the Warden. Since the Warden has accused Stanley of stealing this case from her cabin, it becomes obvious that she is the liar and thief, not him. After all, the case does have his name on it.

***Summary and Analysis Part by Part:***

***Summary Part 1:***

As the sun rises, [Stanley](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters/stanley-yelnats) counts eight lizards in the hole with him. Inexplicably, [Zero](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters/zero-hector-zeroni) says, "Satan." The [Warden](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters/the-warden) suggests that [Mr. Sir](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters/mr-sir) take the suitcase from Zero, as the lizards clearly aren't hungry, but none of them move. Hours later, they watch a tarantula lumber along the ground. A lizard leaps from Stanley's head towards the tarantula, devouring it in one gulp. Mr. Sir observes that the lizards are absolutely hungry.

***Analysis Part 1:***

When the lizards show that they're hungry, just not for Stanley and Zero, it again appears as though fate and destiny are helping the boys get through this ordeal—but also, that nature is conspiring to help. The lizards keep the Warden and Mr. Sir away, even as they terrify the boys.

***Summary Part 2:***

The lizards move lower in the hole to escape the sun as the day progresses. [Stanley](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters/stanley-yelnats) believes that there are two hiding between [Zero](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters/zero-hector-zeroni)'s knees. The boys whisper to each other, and Stanley tries to climb out. He feels a claw dig in and gives up. Zero asks Stanley if his last name is his first name backwards. Stanley is amazed that Zero could figure that out. They hear cars approaching, and [Mr. Sir](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters/mr-sir) says it's certainly not Girl Scouts with cookies.

***Analysis Part 2:***

When Zero asks Stanley about his last name, it again reinforces that Zero isn't dumb; he's just uneducated. By making that distinction, the novel is able to point to the ways that Zero, even as an intelligent kid, is disadvantaged because of not getting an education, especially when even Stanley is surprised.

***Summary Part 3:***

A short while later, [Mr. Pendanski](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters/mr-pendanski) leads a short woman and a tall man in a suit to the hole. When they're close enough to see, the woman ([Ms. Morengo](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters/ms-morengo)) turns to the man, the Texas [Attorney General](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters), and says that if anything happens to [Stanley](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters/stanley-yelnats), they're filing charges against the [Warden](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters/the-warden) as well as the state of Texas. The Attorney General asks the Warden how long the boys have been stuck. The Warden insists that the boys snuck into her cabin, stole her suitcase, and then fell into the nest last night. Stanley says it's not true, but Ms. Morengo advises him not to speak. Stanley wonders who actually owns the suitcase.

***Analysis Part 3:***

The Warden's decision to lie shows that she believes herself to be above the law or, at the very least, outside of it—the setup of Camp Green Lake itself is testament to that. This also shows that she doesn't value Stanley or Zero's lives at all, given that if the Attorney General or Ms. Morengo believe her, Stanley and Zero will certainly be in deep trouble.

***Summary Part 4:***

[Ms. Morengo](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters/ms-morengo) angrily says that this wouldn't have happened if the [Warden](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters/the-warden) had released [Stanley](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters/stanley-yelnats) to her yesterday, but the Warden insists that this is Stanley's fault. The [Attorney General](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters) asks why the Warden didn't release Stanley when asked, and the Warden insists that Ms. Morengo didn't have proper authorization. She insists that she needed authentication from the Attorney General before she could abide by even a signed court order. She again says that Stanley has been delusional for days.

***Analysis Part 4:***

When the Warden insists that Stanley was delusional, she attempts to discredit him by creating an image of him that's not at all credible—which is very similar to the way that Mr. Pendanski thought of Zero as being wholly useless and unintelligent. This again shows that there's a great deal of power to be had by dehumanizing someone and making them seem uneducated.

***Summary Part 5:***

[Stanley](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters/stanley-yelnats) carefully pulls himself out of the hole and the lizards allow him to do so. He steadies himself and then helps [Zero](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters/zero-hector-zeroni) stand. As the last of the lizards skitter away, the [Warden](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/holes/characters/the-warden) rushes to Zero, hugs him, and tries to take the suitcase. Zero jerks it away and says it belongs to Stanley. The Warden reminds him that it came from her cabin and threatens to press charges, but Zero points to Stanley's name written in big black letters on the suitcase. The Warden sputters.

***Analysis Part 5:***

It's fairly clear for the reader that the suitcase isn't Stanley's; it's likely the one that Kate Barlow stole from the first Stanley. This shows that even the Yelnats's decision to name their sons Stanley for generations is linked to destiny and was fated, as this will certainly help Stanley out of this pickle.