***Maniac Magee***

***Chapter 43***

***Summary and Analysis***

***Brief Summary:***

Chapter 43. Maniac continues to live in the buffalo pen and travels all around the city keeping a distance from the P&W trolley trestle reminding him of the accident that killed his parents. Over the time he’s lived in Two Mills, he’s learned to recognize the unique characteristics of the backyards of both the East and West Ends. Eventually, he begins to sleep in the backyards.

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

***Summary Part 1:***

[Maniac](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/maniac-magee/characters/jeffrey-lionel-maniac-magee) sleeps where he can, often at the zoo, and scrounges food where he can find it. It seems to him that [Mrs. Pickwell](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/maniac-magee/characters/mrs-valerie-pickwell)’s dinner whistle carries to wherever he happens to be. Maniac loves rising early in the morning, before anyone is awake, jogging through the streets and thinking about the people who occupy the houses and yards. At this time of day, there are just people, no divisions. Sometimes he sneaks into a backyard to sleep, or even into an unlocked kitchen.

***Analysis Part 1:***

Not at home at the McNabs’, Maniac ekes out an existence as best he can in Two Mills. In a way, the town as a whole has become his home. His early morning jogs show him a town where people are united by much more than what divides them—seeing the town’s potential much as he sees that of individuals.