



## THE INVENTION OF VITA-WONK

by Roald Dahl

### SUMMARY

The following chapter "The Invention of Vita-Wonk" has been taken from a book written by Roald Dahl titled "Charlie and The Great Glass Elevator." This chapter is written in two parts and follows the adventures of Charlie and Mr. Willy Wonka as they set out to create a recipe that might make people older.

#### The Effects of Wonka-Vite

Mr. Willy Wonka has invented an exotic potion named Wonka-Vite which makes people younger. But Wonka-Vite turned out to be very strong and effective. It reduced the age of some people to minus and made them disappear. One person's age had become minus 87 and so, he must wait for 87 years before coming back. Due to this, the scientist Mr. Willy Wonka decided to invent something new.

### Part - I

#### Mr. Wonka Decides to Create Vita-Wonk

Mr. Wonka began searching for a new recipe that would make people older. He questioned Charlie about the longest living thing in the world. Charlie replied that it was a tree. Mr. Wonka exclaimed that Charlie was right but it couldn't be any type of tree like the Douglas fir, the Oak, or the Cedar. He specified that the Bristlecone Pine tree that grew on the slopes of Wheeler Peak in Nevada lived for 4000 years! Then, he went into the Great Glass Elevator to travel across the world to collect items from the oldest living things.

#### Ingredients of Vita-Wonk

He collected a pint of sap from a 4000 year old Bristlecone Pine, toe-nail clippings from a 168 year old Russian farmer, an egg laid by a 200 year old tortoise, the tail of a 51 year old horse, whiskers of a 36 year old cat, an old flea which lived on

crumpets for 36 years, the tail of a 207 year old giant rat, the black teeth of a 97 year old Grimalkin, and knuckle bones of a 700 year old cattaloo.

## Part - II

### Mr. Wonka's Experiment

Mr. Wonka visited the oldest and most ancient animals to gather the ingredients of Vita-Wonk. He visited the whistle-pig, the bobolink, the skrock, the pollyfrog, the giant curlicue, the stinging slug, and the venomous squerkle. He boiled, mixed, and tested all of it in his inventing room. At the end, he produced one tiny cupful of oily black liquid.

### The Oompa-Loompa Grew Old

A twenty year old Oompa-Loompa volunteer drank four drops of the oily black liquid. Charlie was curious about the result of the experiment. Mr. Wonka replied that the Oompa-Loompa immediately began to wrinkle and shrivel. All of his hair dropped off and his teeth started falling out. He became 75 years old! So, Vita-Wonk was invented.

## Word – Meaning

Word	Meaning
Rolled up my sleeves	To prepare for hard work
Squeezed	Pressing strongly
Fir	An evergreen coniferous tree with upright cones and flat needle-shaped leaves, typically arranged in two rows
Oak	A large tree which bears acorns and typically has lobed deciduous leaves. Chinar trees found in Kashmir are an example of Oak tree
Cedar	An evergreen tree with a sweet-smelling wood used as timber
Pine	An evergreen coniferous tree that has a cluster of long needle-shaped leaves
Dendrochronology	The study of climate changes and past events through tree ring comparisons

Flea	A small insect living on the skin of animals for their blood
Whiskers	A long hair growing from the face of many animals
Crumpets	A thick fat savory cake with a soft porous texture
Grimalkin	A cat
Knucklebones	A bone corresponding to a knuckle
Cattaloo	A blend of cattle and buffalo
Tracked down	To search where someone or something is
Bobolink	A North-American bird that can sing
Curlicue	A decorative curl
Stinging	Wound or pierce with a wound
Slug	A tough-skinned terrestrial insect

