



Q11. "He felt being an old man suited him." How would Jack play the old wizard?

Ans: The wizard's voice was one of Jack's own favourite effects. He did it by scrunching up his face and somehow whining through his eyes. During this brief period of time his eyes would become full of watery secretions. He would say, 'Eh? Whatzis? Whatcher want? You smell awful.'

Q12. How was the Skunk's story different from the other stories narrated by Jack? [Delhi 2014]

Ans: The stories told by Jack were well taken by Jo. But the ending of the Skunk's story did not satisfy her. She believed that the wizard should have hit back Skunk's mommy and Skunk would have kept smelling like roses.

Q13. How did Jack make the role of the wizard more impressive?

Ans: Jack fixed Jo with the trance like gaze. Then he chanted a magic spell in the wizard's elderly irritable voice. The chanting was rhythmical and had sweet rhymes. The exclamation "Bingo!" confirmed the pleasure, the pleasure of the wizard at having done what he had been trying to do. All of a sudden, the whole inside of the wizard's house was full of the smell of roses.

Q14. How did Jo react to Jack's chanting of the magic spell ?

Ans: Jack chanted the magic spell as the wizard would do. When he paused, he noticed a rapt expression widening out from his daughter's nostrils. She forced her eyebrows up and her lower lip down in a wide noiseless grin. This expression reminded Jack of his wife's expression while feigning pleasure at cocktail parties.

Q15. "Very silly of your stupid old daddy," says Jack. Why, do you think, did Jack say so?

Ans: While narrating the story of Roger Skunk, Jack by chance said Roger Fish. Jo was quick to interrupt him and point out the error. She repeated twice that he had said Roger Fish and asked if that wasn't silly. Jack had to admit that it had been very silly of him.

Q16. What action of Jo annoyed Jack? What do you think disturbed him?

Ans: Roger Skunk began to cry as he had only four pennies. Jo made the crying face again, but this time without a trace of sincerity. This annoyed Jack. Some more furniture rumbled down stairs. Jack thought that Clare shouldn't move heavy things. He was worried because she was six months pregnant. It would be their third child.

Q17. Which two factors made Jack continue the story?

Ans: Roger Skunk had returned home at dark after playing happily with the other little animals. Jo did not fall asleep. She was starting to fuss with her hands and look out of the window. She thought the story was over. Jack did not like women when they took anything for granted. He liked them to be worried. So he continued the story.

Q18. Why was Roger Skunk's mommy angry? What did she finally tell him?

Ans: She was angry because Roger Skunk had an unusual smell of

roses. She called it awful and asked Roger who made him smell like that. When he said, "The wizard", she ordered him to come with her and they were going right back to that very awful wizard. She seemed to be very angry with the wizard.

Q19. Why, do you think, did Roger Skunk's mommy insist on taking him to the wizard at once?

Ans: Roger Skunk's mommy wanted young skunk to smell the way a little skunk should. She did not want him to acquire the artificial and uncharacteristic smell of the roses. The foul smell was a tool for him to keep the enemy away. That is why she hit the wizard right over the head and he agreed to restore the original 'foul' smell.

Q20. How did Jo want the wizard to behave when mommy skunk approached him?

Ans: Jo had a deep regard for the wizard. He had magical powers and could do anything. She did not agree with her father's version. She said that the wizard hit her (Roger Skunk's mommy) on the head and did not change that little skunk back. She did not want that the other little animals should hate him again for his awful smell.

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