

Grade 8

Reading - Fiction

The Mysterious Cave of Eldridge

In the heart of the tiny town of Bayside, there existed a legend that was passed down through generations. This legend spoke of a cave named Eldridge, a mystical place where dreams could come to life.

One summer evening, while other kids were busy playing tag in the park, 14-year-old Emily decided to go in search of the cave. She had always been an adventurous soul, eager to unveil the mysteries that her world held. With a map drawn by her great-grandfather in her backpack, she made her way through the dense forest.

After walking for what seemed like hours, Emily stumbled upon an ancient, moss-covered archway. It was surrounded by trees that seemed to have grown in perfect formation to shield it from the outside world. A soft, melodious hum echoed from the depths of the cave. Emily felt a strange pull, urging her to step inside.

As she ventured deeper into the cave, she began to see images—reminiscent of memories, yet they were not her own. There was a ship caught in a tempest, an old man reading by the candlelight, a young girl laughing with flowers in her hair. Every step she took brought a new scene to life. The air was thick with enchantment.

Coming to a large open chamber, Emily found a crystal clear pool. Above it, a single beam of light shone down from an opening in the cave's ceiling. The light illuminated a stone pedestal at the center of the pool with a book resting atop it. Emily realized that this was no ordinary book; it was the Book of Dreams. Legend has it that whoever wrote this book could bring their dreams to life.

Emily hesitated for a moment, contemplating what to write. But then, a deep sense of understanding washed over her. She realized that the true magic wasn't in the book but in the

heart of the dreamer. She left the book untouched and decided to make her own dreams come true with determination and hard work.

She retraced her steps, leaving the cave with a newfound wisdom. The mysteries of Eldridge had revealed not just the magic of legends but also the magic within.

Questions:

1. Where is the cave of Eldridge located?
 - a. In the heart of the forest
 - b. Near the park
 - c. In the heart of Bayside
 - d. On the beach
2. What did Emily carry with her?
 - a. A torch
 - b. A map drawn by her great-grandfather
 - c. A storybook
 - d. A compass
3. What did Emily hear as she approached the cave?
 - a. Birds chirping
 - b. A soft, melodious hum
 - c. A loud roar
 - d. Whispers
4. What images did Emily see inside the cave?
 - a. Her own memories
 - b. Images from a movie
 - c. Random, unfamiliar memories
 - d. Pictures on the walls
5. What was special about the trees around the archway?

- a. They were fruit-bearing
 - b. They were dead
 - c. They shielded the archway
 - d. They were full of birds
6. What did the legend say about the Book of Dreams?
- a. It could tell the future
 - b. It was cursed
 - c. Whoever wrote in it could bring dreams to life
 - d. It had the history of Eldridge
7. How did Emily feel upon discovering the Book of Dreams?
- a. Frightened
 - b. Disappointed
 - c. Enlightened
 - d. Confused
8. What did Emily decide to do with the book?
- a. She took it with her
 - b. She wrote her biggest dream in it
 - c. She left it untouched
 - d. She threw it into the pool
9. Why did Emily visit the cave?
- a. To find a treasure
 - b. To hide from others
 - c. Out of curiosity and adventure
 - d. She was lost
10. What was the main lesson Emily learned from the cave?
- a. There are dangerous places in the world
 - b. True magic lies within determination and hard work
 - c. Always carry a map

d. It's essential to write in magical books

Answers:

1. Answer: C. In the heart of Bayside
2. Answer: B. A map drawn by her great-grandfather
3. Answer: B. A soft, melodious hum
4. Answer: C. Random, unfamiliar memories
5. Answer: C. They shielded the archway
6. Answer: C. Whoever wrote in it could bring dreams to life
7. Answer: C. Enlightened
8. Answer: C. She left it untouched
9. Answer: C. Out of curiosity and adventure
10. Answer: B. True magic lies within determination and hard work