**Study Questions - Chapter 6, While Father is Away**

1. What does Dave's father do to ease Dave's burden in Chapter 6?

2. What is Father's reaction when mother tells him to stop helping Dave?

3. What does Dave's father promise him as they talk quietly together in Chapter 6?

4. How does Dave react when his father says goodbye to him?

5. How does Dave refer to Mother's house after his father leaves?

6. How long does Dave go without food when his father is away?

7. Dave's mother offers him food after many days. What does she do when he is about to eat it?

8. What is the one thing Dave wants, even more than food in Chapter 6, While Father is Away?

9. How does Dave feel about his brothers as he hears them laugh at a TV show while they eat their desserts?

10. What new torture does Mother come up with when she sends him to clean the bathroom?

11. Near the end of summer in Chapter 6, what does Dave's mother send him to do?

12. What does one of the ladies in the neighborhood give to Dave out of sympathy in Chapter 6?

13. What does Dave's mother tell him to do while she takes his brothers to the zoo?

14. When Dave's mother returns from the zoo, what does she do to him?

15. Who do Dave's brothers bring to the house to see him being punished in Chapter 6?

16. What does Dave's fourth grade substitute teacher give to students who do good work?

17. Why does the school nurse begin to be interested in Dave's condition in Chapter 6?

18. Where does Dave's mother have him sleep after she carves pumpkins with his brothers?

19. Why does Dave's mother give him roller skates for Christmas?

20. How is Dave treated by the rest of the family when his mother is in the hospital?

21. What is the new baby's name?

22. Why does Dave's mother suddenly allow Dave to eat with the family, watch TV, and give him new clothes to wear?

23. When does Dave feel the most alone?

24. What is Dave's frame of mind when he sees his father leaving for work in the morning?

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