

How was Cash injured? How bad is the injury? How does each of the other characters try to comfort Cash?

Why is it important to recover Cash's tools? Which do they find? How?

How does Cash respond to the pain?

What are those "mammalian ludicrosities" Darl sees? Why ludicrous?

Describe Cora's attitude toward sin, toward pride, toward Addie and her pride.

See p. 159: in these paragraphs of Cora's, where do you discern irony? Is it situational irony or verbal irony? How do we know?

Why won't Addie kneel and pray with Cora? Why I Jewel both Addie's cross and her salvation? How will he save her from the water and the fire? Figuratively? Literally?

According to Addie's father and to Addie, what is the point of living?

Why did Addie marry Anse? How did he woo her? What did he look like? How soon did she realize he was terrible? See p. 162, antepenultimate paragraph: why all the repetition of *wild*?

What did Addie realize from Cash's birth? What did she lose? From Darl's birth? What is the point of motherhood?

What does she learn about love from Anse? What, ultimately, is her revenge on Anse? Why does she regard Anse as "dead already"?

For Addie, what is the value of words?

In whom did Addie believe, briefly, she had found reason to be alive? What was wonderful about that man, that experience? Why did she think of him as "dressed in sin"? Who ended their affair? How did Addie regard that "conclusion"? What prize came from it?

For how long did she "refuse" Anse? Why? And then what? Why did she even bear Dewey Dell and Vardaman?

According to the memories of Cash and Darl, how did Addie treat Jewel when he was an infant?

When Whitfield learns of Addie's illness, what does he most fear? And as a result, what does he plan to do? And why?

When—and why—does Whitfield know “forgiveness was mine”? How does he know God forgave him his sin? How is he guilty of rationalization? Please pay particular attention to his language in the final seven paragraphs. How religious is Whitfield? How well does he wield religious language?

How important is rationalization to Addie, to Anse, to Cora? To others? Anse is a master at passive-aggressive manipulations: select two or three excellent instances.

How does Jewel reach the Armstids' place? How do the others reach there? Where do they take Cash—and why? Where do they leave the wagon and coffin? And how do they use the tin roof sheets?

How do Armstid and Lula treat the Bundrens? How does Anse manipulate and use them? How does Faulkner emphasize Jewel's horse? Why?

Why did Peabody not come to set Cash's leg? Who came instead? What did he do? Describe the procedure and Cash's responses.

How do we know about the buzzards? Where are they? How intrusive? How many?

How does Lula judge Anse? And for what specifically? What does she want Armstid to do? How do the Bundrens move the coffin and where to? What is the outrage Lula and Armstid perceive? How does Anse rationalize it?

Why is Anse so picky about a new span of mules? With whom does he bargain? How does he get there? What does he pay for the mules? Who delivers the mules? What does Anse take from Cash to pay for the mules? What does he take from Jewel to pay for the mules? How long has Anse been toothless? How does that justify stealing from Cash and Jewel?

Why did Jewel take the horse over to Snopes?

Why is Vardaman confused about his mother, Jewel's mother, Cash's leg, the buzzards? What does his mother “not smell like”? Why did Darl loosen the ropes on Cash's splints?

Who is Moseley? Where does he work? How does Dewey Dell approach him? Among other characters in *As I Lay Dying*, whom does he most resemble—and why? How important is it that he has been a church member there for 56 years?

Choose two or three words which best describe his attitude toward women, then his attitude toward Dewey Dell in particular.

How pregnant is Dewey Dell now? What does she offer Moseley for medicine?

What is Darl doing while Dewey Dell is with Moseley? Why is the sheriff urging Anse on? And how does Anse reply? How long now since Addie died?

How much cement does Darl buy? Why are they even buying cement? What does he do with it? How do they get water to mix it?

While they torture Cash trying to set his leg in a cement cast, what is his main concern? When does Jewel return? How?

Where do the buzzards stay when the Bundrens stay in a barn?