

***Will Wilder: The Relic of Perilous Falls* by Raymond Arroyo**

Will Wilder didn't mean to unlock his otherworldly gift. But that is exactly what happens when Will "borrows" a sacred relic believed to protect the town of Perilous Falls for nearly a century. Even though his intentions are good, the impulsive twelve-year old unwittingly awakens an ancient evil endangering all of Perilous Falls.

As boats sink and hideous creatures crawl from the rising waters, it is up to Will to confront a nightmarish enemy and set things right before it is too late. Along with his sweet—if lethal—Great-Aunt Lucille, the curator of a museum of supernatural artifacts, Will proves that the actions of one twelve-year-old boy can change the world.

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Discussion Questions:

1. Why does Aunt Lucille tell the mayor that the town of Perilous Falls is "the last stronghold against the dark madness of the world"? (p.16). What does this phrase mean to you as you read the story? Why is the mayor antagonistic toward Aunt Lucille?
2. Compare the different reactions that Will's mother and father have to the strange events in the town and in their home. How do these reactions reflect the personalities of Will's parents and the things they believe in?

3. What does Tobias Shen mean when he tells Will, “If you don’t know your past, you will never discover your future”? (p. 52). Discuss how this statement reflects what Will learns about his family history as the events of the story unfold.
4. Discuss the meaning of the phrase: “A relic is a key to unlock our faith.” (p. 186). What does this mean to Will, Aunt Lucille, and to Mr. Shen? Why is it important to keep the relic from being destroyed by the demons?
5. How does Nep Balor convince Will to disobey Shen and Aunt Lucille? What does he tell Will that makes him think it will be acceptable to do what Balor is asking of him? Why can’t Andrew and Simon see Balor?
6. Compare Will to his friends Andrew, Simon, and Cami. What does each of them contribute to the search for the relic? How are they different, and what talents does each of them have to offer? How do each of Will’s siblings and Cami’s brother contribute to understanding the strange events?

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Recommendations:

- If you liked *Will Wilder: The Relic of Perilous Falls*, you might like *Will Wilder: The Lost Staff of Wonders* (<http://www.booksamillion.com/p/9780553539677>)
- You might also enjoy *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone* (<http://www.booksamillion.com/p/9780545582889>)