

Serafina and the Black Cloak

Robert Beatty

1. What does Serafina do most nights?
She roams the basement at night looking for rats. She calls herself the Cheif Rat Catcher.
2. How does Serafina get around the Biltmore?
She moves around in the dark or through the vents. She knew most of the hidden doorways and other secret passages of the mansion. She was small and could hide in various places.
3. How did Serafina come to be with her father?
He found her as a baby in the forest by herself when he was younger. He kept her hidden in the basement with him.
4. What was Serafina's father's job in the mansion?
He was in charge of repairing the Edison machine. The Edison machine kept the lights on in the mansion.
5. What did father always warn Serafina about?
She was not to be seen in the mansion by the people and she should never enter the forest.
6. What did Serafine know about Braeden's family?
She knew that his family had all been killed in a fire before he came to live with his aunt and uncle.
7. What was Braeden's problem when he moved to the mansion?
He was not able to really make any friends throughout his life. He much rather be with the animals.
8. Why did Braeden and Serafina go to the Biltmore library?
She had heard the men talking and wanted to look up a Russian word.
9. Where did Braeden's aunt say he would be going?
She said they were going to send him to stay with Mr. Thorne to protect him since all the children were disappearing.
10. Why did Serafina climb into the carriage with Braeden?
She climbed into the carriage because she said she was the shoeshine girl.
11. When Braeden and Serafina were on the path in the forest, why did the carriage stop?
A fallen tree blocked the path and did not allow them to go any further.
12. What did Mr. Crankshod say happened to the carriage?
He said that it was attacked by bandits.
13. Who did Serafina realize was after Braeden?
She knew the Man in the Black Cloak was after Braeden for his abilities with animals.

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14. What did Braeden give Serafina?
He gave her a beautiful gown. It was the best thing she ever owned.
15. What did Serafina wonder about the wearer of the Black Cloak?
She wondered if it absorbed the victims' knowledge, talents, and youth.
16. What did Serafina NOT understand about Mr. Thorne?
She could not understand why he was so good at everything. He could speak Russian, he could play the violin, he was a good storyteller.
17. What was Serafina's plan to catch the Man in the Black Cloak?
She decided to bait him like a rat. She lead him to the forest and the cemetery she found hidden.
18. How was the Man in the Black Cloak defeated?
He was finally defeated when he was attacked by the mountain lioness (Serafina's mother).
19. Where did Serafina hide while the Man in the Blak Cloak searched for her?
She hid in the cubs' den in the forest because she knew the lioness was near.
20. What happened when Serafina put on the Black Cloak?
She screamed when she put on the Black Cloak because she could see the faces of the dead children.
21. How did Serafina destroy the Black Cloak?
She pierced it with the sword on the angel statue while she was in the cemetery.
22. Why was Serafina's mother not able to care for her?
Her mom was under a spell and was stuck in a catamount form (a creature that can shift between human and cat form).
23. What did Serafina learn about herself by the end of the story?
She realized she was not entirely human. She was like her mother - a catamount.
24. Who was the Man in the Black Cloak?
Mr. Thorne was the Man in the Black Cloak.
25. Why did the adults at the Biltmore cheer at the end of the story?
Serafina defeated the Man in the Black Cloak and rescued all the missing children. She brought all the children back home to their parents.