Extract from **Enthralled: A Viking Saga**

by Chris Wright, *Chapter 6.*

*From the point of view of Chester*

When I woke up again, bright daylight was streaming through the hole in the

ceiling, cutting a dust-filled path through the darkness of the windowless house.

I turned on my side to see the boy – Hrólfr they had called him – looking at me

with a broad grin on his face.

“Good morning,” he said, and my eyes widened.

At once, the events of the previous day came rushing back to me. The sparkling

woman, the strange ritual, the words at the end in perfect English.

“You’re speaking English!” I exclaimed, bouncing up and racing to sit beside

the boy by the cooking pot.

He gave me a look as if I were a tricky puzzle he was trying to figure out.

“I don’t understand what you’re saying,” he said at last.

“What?” I asked, suddenly unsure again. In my relief, I had forgotten all about

my usual shyness, but it came flooding back as I remembered I was sat by a

strange boy, in a strange place, and that strange things had been done to me.

“But you’re speaking English…” I finished, pathetically.

**Questions**

1. How can you tell that Chester was sleeping before the start of this extract?

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2. Why is the house dark?

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3. What is the name of the boy Chester is talking to?

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4. How is Chester feeling when it says, ‘my eyes widened’?

 Shocked Scared

 Anxious Angry

5. What does it mean by the events ‘came rushing back to’ Chester?

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6. Is Chester usually a confident boy? How do you know?

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7. What ‘strange thing’ has been done to Chester?

 A sacrifice A feast

 A good night’s sleep A ritual

8. How do you think Chester and Hrólfr might come to understand each other?

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“What?” I asked, suddenly unsure again. In my relief, I had forgotten all about

my usual shyness, but it came flooding back as I remembered I was sat by a

strange boy, in a strange place, and that strange things had been done to me.

“But you’re speaking English…” I finished, pathetically.

He smiled again at that, as if he’d finally worked me out.

“I think you’re saying English,” he said, “but I’m not speaking English. I’m

speaking Norse.”

I reeled back a little. I couldn’t help it. Norse? I couldn’t speak Norse.

**Questions**

1. How can you tell that Chester was sleeping before the start of this extract?

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2. Why is the house dark?

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3. How is Chester feeling when it says, ‘my eyes widened’?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. What does it mean by the events ‘came rushing back to’ Chester?

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5. Is Chester usually a confident boy? How do you know?

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6. Why was Chester acting out of character when he first woke up?

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7. What ‘strange thing’ has been done to Chester?

 A sacrifice A feast

 A good night’s sleep A ritual

8. How do you think Chester and Hrólfr might come to understand each other?

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9. Why do you think Chester can understand Hrólfr even though they don’t speak the same language?

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**Answers**

**Lower Question Set**

1. How can you tell that Chester was sleeping before the start of this extract?

*It says he woke up at the start.*

2. Why is the house dark?

*There are no windows.*

3. What is the name of the boy Chester is talking to?

*Hrólfr*

4. How is Chester feeling when it says, ‘my eyes widened’?

*Shocked*

5. What does it mean by the events ‘came rushing back to’ Chester?

*He remembered what had happened.*

6. Is Chester usually a confident boy? How do you know?

*No. It says, ‘I had forgotten all about my usual shyness.’*

7. What ‘strange thing’ has been done to Chester?

*A ritual*

8. How do you think Chester and Hrólfr might come to understand each other?

*Any answer that makes sense within the context of the story.*

**Answers**

**Higher Question Set**

1. How can you tell that Chester was sleeping before the start of this extract?

*It says he woke up at the start.*

2. Why is the house dark?

*There are no windows.*

3. How is Chester feeling when it says, ‘my eyes widened’?

*Shocked*

4. What does it mean by the events ‘came rushing back to’ Chester?

*He remembered what had happened.*

5. Is Chester usually a confident boy? How do you know?

*No. It says, ‘I had forgotten all about my usual shyness.’*

6. Why was Chester acting out of character when he first woke up?

*He was excited/relieved that he could understand what was being said.*

7. What ‘strange thing’ has been done to Chester?

*A ritual*

8. How do you think Chester and Hrólfr might come to understand each other?

*Any answer that makes sense within the context of the story.*

9. Why do you think Chester can understand Hrólfr even though they don’t speak the same language?

*An answer that makes reference to the ritual or magic or any other answer that makes sense and can be justified.*