



Chapters 16-18

The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle

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Vocabulary: Use one word from the Word Box to replace each underlined word or phrase in the following sentences. Write the word on the line after the sentence.

tumultuous fastidiousness pang portentously steadfast amiss

1. Charlotte knew something was out of order when she was allowed to sleep through her watch.

2. The deterioration of Captain Jaggery's clothing was amazing for a man with his care and attention to details.

3. Charlotte tried in vain to picture herself as she had been before the disorderly and turbulent voyage.

4. A sudden painful feeling of embarrassment caused Charlotte to turn away from Zachariah.

5. The sailors were unwavering in their defense of Zachariah. _____
6. During the trial, the captain scowled threateningly at Charlotte. _____

Questions:

1. Captain Jaggery accused this person of murdering Hollybrass
 - a. Charlotte
 - b. Zachariah
 - c. Keetch
2. Captain Jaggery
 - a. had Charlotte taken to the brig.
 - b. cut everyone's rations in half because no one admitted to the killing.
 - c. looked as neat and polished as ever, despite the recent storm.
 - d. told Charlotte he would serve as Judge and Jury at the trial.
 - e. threw Keetch into the brig.
3. Zachariah's plan is
 - a. to have Charlotte swim to shore once they reach port.
 - b. to poison Jaggery's food with rat poison from the kitchen.
 - c. received enthusiastically by Charlotte.
 - d. to sneak off the ship himself and go to the authorities.

4. The penalty for murdering a ship's officer is
 - a. 40 lashes.
 - b. death by hanging.
 - c. walking the plank.
 - d. 15 yards and loss of down.

5. Was Charlotte correct about the reason why the crew did not defend her?

6. Could Zachariah have murdered Mr. Hollybrass as Charlotte suspected?

7. What did the captain's disheveled physical state indicate about his state of mind?

In what other ways could Charlotte have defended herself at her trial?

Has your impression of Mr. Keetch changed since you learned that he planned to hide Zachariah? Explain.

Was Charlotte correct about the difficulty Zachariah would have had in taking Captain Jaggery to court in Rhode Island in 1832? Explain your response.

By the standards of the time, what power did a captain legitimately have over a ship? Given this power, what was unfair about Charlotte's trial?