

The Girl

11 "Hello?" he said. "You got a name then, have you?" She
19 shrank from him, breathing hard, coughing again now,
29 and shivering under her blanket. "I'm Alfie. You needn't be
40 afeared of me, girl." She was staring at Jim now, breathing
50 hard. "That's Father. He won't hurt you any more'n I
62 will. You hungry, are you? You been here long? You got a
72 terrible cough on you. Where d'you come from then? How
81 d'you get here, girl?" She said nothing, simply crouched
92 there, frozen in her fear, her eyes darting wildly from Jim
103 to Alfie, from Alfie to Jim. Alfie reached out slowly, and
111 touched her blanket. "It's wet through," he said.

Quick Questions

1. Find and copy **two** words or phrases that show that the girl was watching Alfie and Jim intently.

• _____

• _____
2. Choose one word to describe how the girl might be feeling at this point in the story. Explain your choice.

3. What do you predict might have happened if Alfie had moved closer to the girl?

4. Sum up this extract in 20 words or fewer.

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Answers

- 1. Find and copy **two** words or phrases that show that the girl was watching Alfie and Jim intently.

Accept:

- **staring**
- **eyes darting (wildly from Jim to Alfie, from Alfie to Jim)**

- 2. Choose one word to describe how the girl might be feeling at this point in the story. Explain your choice.

Pupils’ own responses, such as: I think the girl is terrified because she is breathing hard and is crouching down, which shows she is scared. It also says she was ‘frozen in fear’.

- 3. What do you predict might have happened if Alfie had moved closer to the girl?

Pupils’ own responses, such as: I predict that she may have screamed and tried to run away from them both.

- 4. Sum up this extract in 20 words or fewer.

Pupils’ own responses, such as: Alfie tries to work out who the mysterious, wet girl is but she seems terrified and doesn’t reply.

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