

## Frankie and Fawny and the Magnificent Blue Pearl:

### Comprehension Questions for Chapters 9-13

1. In chapter 9, how do oysters improve water quality?

Oysters have a natural filter feeding ability.

2. In chapter 10, what evidence does the author provide that being a fisherman (or fisherfly) isn't glamorous?

There is a pungent fishy smell on board, and the dredge is covered in sand and muck. Also, it is hard work and everyone is on the boat for a lengthy five hours, playing guessing games to see which oyster \*might\* have a pearl in it. Fonzy, in particular, doesn't seem to be a fan of the guessing game.

3. In chapter 11, why does Frankie imagine himself wearing handcuffs with police officers walking on either side of him and journalists interrogating him with questions?

Frankie feels guilty for not having been there for Fist during his time of need. He believes that Fist would not have gotten himself into the mess he is currently in if he had been there to help him when he was struggling.

4. In chapter 12, how does Fist describe the casino?

He describes the casino as a carnival for grown-ups with fancy, extravagant lights, claiming it was like watching a million tiny stars light up the night sky. He describes the

gambling games such as poker, blackjack, and slot machines. There are celebratory bells that sound each time someone wins money.

5. Why isn't it a good idea to place your happiness in things such as money or a house that can be taken away from you?

If you place your happiness in anything that can be taken AWAY from you, then the instant that something is taken from you, your happiness is also taken from you. You can love things such as money, a house, or a favorite video game, but don't let those things be the sole reason why you are happy. Find OTHER things that make you happy such as laughter and love. Those things can never be taken from you. 😊

6. In chapter 13, when Franny passes the piercing and tattoo parlor in downtown Lahaina, what does her reaction say about who she is as a character? (Hint: use your knowledge from evidence provided in earlier chapters)

Franny is rather fascinated with the piercing and tattoo parlor, particularly because she associates with being a "musician with pierced ears" who loves all things rock and roll. Rock and roll tends to focus on things that are a little bit radical or edgy and per her fascination with older musicians who wear eyeliner, ripped jeans, and/or have long hair, it becomes clear that she also associates piercing and tattoo parlors with her somewhat edgy and radical world....even if it is mostly an edgy and radical world in her MIND.

7. In chapter 13, what evidence is there that the dogs are happy and well cared for?

The tennis balls have stains on them from the freshly planted grass outside, hinting that Fist has begun playing with the dogs. Also, none of the dogs are sleeping.