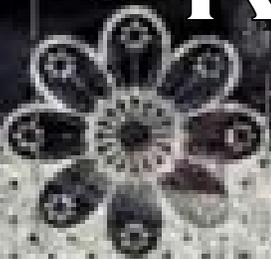




**FOR ONE MORE DAY:  
READING GUIDE**



# FOR ONE MORE DAY

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## CONSIDERING THE TIME WE HAVE

"If you had the chance, just one chance, to go back and fix what you did wrong in life, would you take it? And if you did, would you be big enough to stand it?"

ONE DAY....24 HOURS....1,440 MINUTES....86,400 SECONDS....

What have you done today?



My actions today suggest that I value....

By the end of the day I will \_\_\_\_\_.

This will reveal that I value \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**“SOMETIME AROUND MIDNIGHT”**  
**BY THE AIRBORNE TOXIC EVENT**

And it starts...  
Sometime around midnight  
Or at least that's when  
You lose yourself  
For a minute or two

As you stand...  
Under the barlights  
And the band plays some song  
About forgetting yourself for a while  
And the piano's this melancholy soundcheck  
To her smile  
And that white dress she's wearing  
You haven't seen her  
For a while

But you know...  
That she's watching  
She's laughing, she's turning  
She's holding her tonic like a crux  
The room suddenly spinning  
She walks up and asks how you are  
So you can smell her perfume  
You can see her lying naked in your arms

And so there's a change...  
In your emotions  
And all of these memories come rushing  
Like feral waves to your mind  
Of the curl of your bodies  
Like two perfect circles entwined

And you feel hopeless, and homeless  
And lost in the haze  
Of the wine

And she leaves...  
With someone you don't know  
But she makes sure you saw her  
She looks right at you and bolts  
As she walks out the door  
Your blood boiling  
Your stomach in ropes  
And when your friends say what is it  
You look like you've seen a ghost

And you walk...  
Under the streetlights  
And you're too drunk to notice  
That everyone is staring at you  
And you so care what you look like  
The world is falling  
Around you

You just have to see her  
You just have to see her

And you know that she'll break you  
In two

1. Highlight two significant sections in this song. Explain why you have chosen these sections.

- a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
b. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. What do you think the speaker must come to realize?

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

3. How does the album cover communicate the strongest idea (theme) of the song?

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



Advertising Archives

## *The good wife's guide*

- Have dinner ready. Plan ahead, even the night before, to have a delicious meal ready, on time for his return. This is a way of letting him know that you have been thinking about him and are concerned about his needs. Most men are hungry when they come home and the prospect of a good meal (especially his favorite dish) is part of the warm welcome needed.
- Prepare yourself. Take 15 minutes to rest so you'll be refreshed when he arrives. Touch up your make-up, put a ribbon in your hair and be fresh-looking. He has just been with a lot of work-weary people.
- Be a little gay and a little more interesting for him. His boring day may need a lift and one of your duties is to provide it.
- Clear away the clutter. Make one last trip through the main part of the house just before your husband arrives.

- Gather up schoolbooks, toys, paper etc and then run a dustcloth over the tables.
- Over the cooler months of the year you should prepare and light a fire for him to unwind by. Your husband will feel he has reached a haven of rest and order, and it will give you a lift too. After all, catering for his comfort will provide you with immense personal satisfaction.
- Prepare the children. Take a few minutes to wash the children's hands and faces (if they are small), comb their hair and, if necessary, change their clothes. They are little treasures and he would like to see them playing the part. Minimise all noise. At the time of his arrival, eliminate all noise of the washer, dryer or vacuum. Try to encourage the children to be quiet.
- Be happy to see him.
- Greet him with a warm smile and show sincerity in your desire to please him.
- Listen to him. You may have a dozen important things to tell him, but the moment of his arrival is not the time. Let him talk first - remember, his topics of conversation are more important than yours.
- Make the evening his. Never complain if he comes home late or goes out to dinner, or other places of entertainment without you. Instead, try to understand his world of strain and pressure and his very real need to be at home and relax.
- Your goal: Try to make sure your home is a place of peace, order and tranquillity where your husband can renew himself in body and spirit.
- Don't greet him with complaints and problems.
- Don't complain if he's late home for dinner or even if he stays out all night. Count this as minor compared to what he might have gone through that day.
- Make him comfortable. Have him lean back in a comfortable chair or have him lie down in the bedroom. Have a cool or warm drink ready for him.
- Arrange his pillow and offer to take off his shoes. Speak in a low, soothing and pleasant voice.
- Don't ask him questions about his actions or question his judgment or integrity. Remember, he is the master of the house and as such will always exercise his will with fairness and truthfulness. You have no right to question him.
- A good wife always knows her place.

# LIFE IN THE 50's

## MEDIA REPRESENTATIONS

Identify some of the characteristics, stereotypes, and clichés of the 1950s as they are demonstrated in various texts: The Flintstones, "The Good Wife's Guide," Leave it to Beaver, etc.

A MAN'S ROLE	A WOMAN'S ROLE
	

# FOR ONE MORE DAY

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## CHARACTER COMPARISON

Identify the qualities and characteristics that are unique to Chick's mother and father.

<b>PAULINE "POSEY" BENETTO</b>	<b>LEONARD "LEN" BENETTO</b>

# FOR ONE MORE DAY

## TIMES MY MOTHER STOOD UP FOR ME

	SITUATION	WHAT IS REVEALED ABOUT POSEY	WHAT IS REVEALED ABOUT LEN AND / OR CHICK
TIMES MY MOTHER STOOD UP FOR ME	1.		
	2.		
	3.		
	4.		
	5.		
	6.		

# FOR ONE MORE DAY

## TIMES I DID NOT STAND UP FOR MY MOTHER

	SITUATION	WHAT IS REVEALED ABOUT POSEY	WHAT IS REVEALED ABOUT LEN AND / OR CHICK
<b>TIMES I DID NOT STAND UP FOR MY MOTHER</b>	1.		
	2.		
	3.		
	4.		
	5.		
	6.		
	7.		

# FOR ONE MORE DAY

## MOTHER'S VISITS

Posey takes Chick with her to "visit" a variety of people. During these visits Chick learns details about his mother's life that he never knew.

CHARACTER MOTHER VISITS	CHARACTER'S CONNECTION TO POSEY	WHAT CHICK LEARNS ABOUT HIS MOTHER THROUGH THE CHARACTER
ROSE		
MISS THELMA		
VARIOUS MEN		
DARK-HAIRED WOMAN		

# FOR ONE MORE DAY

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## SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS—INTRODUCTION

1. What kind of story does the narrator suggest this novel is?
2. What does the main character think the narrator wants to know about him?
3. Who does the narrator claim the story from this novel belongs to?
4. Where does the narrator claim to have found the main character of this novel one Saturday morning?
5. What does the narrator claim to have spent part of his / her career doing?
6. What sport does the narrator claim the main character once played?
7. Why did the narrator come to Pepperville Beach?
8. What did the narrator stop to do on the way back to the airport in the *Introduction*?
9. What does the narrator see that draws him / her to the place where she will meet the main character of the novel?
10. Who notices the narrator in the *Introduction* as the narrator watches the action going on?
11. What profession does the narrator regret telling he/she currently work as?
12. Who supposedly played in the World Series?
13. Who supposedly attempted to kill himself/herself?
14. What did the narrator later find that added to the narrator's information used to write this novel?
15. Why does the narrator claim they chose to write the novel in another person's voice?
16. Why does the narrator tell the reader in the *Introduction* that they might not believe the story?
17. What question does the narrator pose at the end of the *Introduction*?
18. The narrator says every family is a what?

# FOR ONE MORE DAY

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## SECTION I—MIDNIGHT (PG 3-17)

1. What line does Chick Benetto feel he crossed?
2. Who told Chick Benetto she was sorry he did not get a chance to say good-bye before his mother died?
3. Why did Chick Benetto once wish his mother would leave him alone?
4. What does Chick Benetto blame for the destruction of his marriage?
5. What family event was Chick Benetto not invited to?
6. Why does Chick Benetto believe he was not invited to this family event?
7. What does Chick Benetto receive that informs him of this family event he missed?
8. How late for work was Chick on the Monday morning after receiving the evidence of the family event he missed?
9. Why does Chick sneak out of work in *Section I*?
10. Who does Chick call after sneaking out of work in *Section I*?
11. During a night of heavy drinking, where does Chick decide to go?
12. What phrase does Chick feel fits him well?
13. What does Chick stop at a convenience store to buy in *Section I*?
14. What causes Chick to crash his car in *Section I*?
15. What does Chick notice his car ran into and is now stopped underneath?
16. Why does Chick claim he did not check on the driver of the truck involved in his accident?
17. In *Section I*, from what object does Chick decide to jump?
18. Who does Chick find looking at him as he recovers from his jump in *Section I*?

# FOR ONE MORE DAY

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## SECTION II: PT 1—MORNING (21-44)

1. Who told Chick he could only be a momma's boy or a daddy's boy, not both?
2. Which did Chick chose to be as a small child, a daddy's boy or a momma's boy?
3. Why does Chick's mother tell him she will have to take him to his ball game in *Section II: Part 1*?
4. Where does Chick go after he wakes from his fall from the water tower?
5. What does Chick intend to do once he arrives at his destination in *Section II: Part 1*?
6. What did Chick's mother often slip to Chick whenever she dropped him off somewhere?
7. Where did Posey met Len Benetto?
8. How did Len Benetto propose to Posey?
9. What was it that Chick insists his father always had in mind?
10. What did Posey and Len fight about most often when Chick was a child?
11. What did Len hope his son would do as an adult?
12. What did Posey want Chick to do as an adult?
13. What does Chick feel is unbalanced in the lists he made regarding his and his mother's love for one another?
14. Why does Chick recall that his mother barked at a neighborhood dog?
15. Why does Chick say his hometown is called Pepperville Beach?
16. What does Chick find in the refrigerator of his mother's long empty house?
17. Who calls down to Chick from upstairs as he stands in the kitchen of his mother's abandoned house in *Section II, Part 1*?
18. What does Posey create out of toilet paper for Chick's Halloween costume when he is six?

# FOR ONE MORE DAY

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## SECTION II: PT 2—MORNING (45-62)

1. What song does Chick recall that his mother liked when he was a child?
2. When did Posey stop listening to her favorite song?
3. What did Chick and his sister use to carve their initials into their mother's kitchen table?
4. How did Roberta hide the carvings she and Chick made in their mother's kitchen table when their mother returned from work?
5. What one word was the only one Chick could manage to say when his mother, who had been dead eight years, entered the kitchen in *Section II: Part 2*?
6. Why did a librarian tell Chick he could not read 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea by Jules Verne?
7. Who came to Chick's defense when the librarian refused to check out the book he wanted?
8. What meal that Posey makes does Len Benetto often complain she cannot make properly?
9. What question does Posey ask Chick that causes him to insist that her being in the kitchen eight years after her death is impossible?
10. Why did Chick and his sister have trouble accepting that their parents were going to get divorced?
11. Why did Len Benetto often spend long chunks of time away from his family?
12. What one thing did Chick notice his parents did together that seemed to make them both happy?
13. What meal does Posey fix for Chick in the present as he sits at the kitchen table?
14. What does Posey remind Chick to do as he eats?
15. Why does Posey ask Chick to repeat himself when he tells her thank you for the meal?
16. What does Chick think about his visit to his mother two years after her death?
17. Why does Chick refuse to give up baseball even after his father has left the family?
18. Why does Posey ask Chick to put on his coat after he has finished eating?

# FOR ONE MORE DAY

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## SECTION II: PT 3—MORNING (63-84)

1. What musical object does Chick compare small towns to?
2. Who brings food to Chick with instructions that he take it home to his family shortly after his parents' divorce?
3. What does Posey do with this food?
4. When is the first time Chick heard the word divorcee as a child?
5. Who did Chick one day catch using binoculars to stare in his mother's bedroom windows shortly after the divorce?
6. What did Chick do about the peeping tom?
7. Why did the doctor who delivered Chick tell Posey she had to deliver by dinner time?
8. What word does Posey show Chick carved into the tree?
9. What does Posey tell Chick this word is supposed to represent?
10. What does Posey say when Chick tells her she died?
11. Why does Chick believe Posey lost all her friends after the divorce?
12. Who dresses up as Santa on the first Christmas after Len Benetto left his family?
13. Why does Chick tell Roberta the truth about Santa Claus that first Christmas after Len left the family?
14. How did Posey often spend holidays after the divorce?
15. How does Chick react to the announcement that he was a blessing his mother had waited a long time to receive?
16. Why did Posey choose a tree to place her prayer in?
17. Why did Posey begin working as a hairstylist when Chick was a child?
18. How many visits does Posey tell Chick she must make that day?

# FOR ONE MORE DAY

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## SECTION II: PT 4—MORNING (85-100)

1. How does Chick come to accept the events taking place after he jumped from the water tower?
2. Who is the first woman Chick and Posey visit that day?
3. What does Rose say when Posey asks about her children?
4. What news does Rose mention she hear on the radio shortly before Posey and Chick come to visit?
5. What would Posey tell her children when they would ask about patients she cared for who had died?
6. Why would Chick pick up Roberta after school every day shortly after the divorce?
7. Why did Posey lose her job at the hospital?
8. Why can Posey not find another nursing job?
9. What does Posey find in Chick's room when he is fourteen that causes a battle between the two?
10. Why does Chick calls his mother a hypocrite when she finds an item hidden in his sock drawer when he is only fourteen?
11. What does Rose say is the only part of her that is still young?
12. Who does Posey brag about as she works on Rose's hair?
13. What does Chick say about this person his mother brags about while doing Rose's hair?
14. What does Posey say children often do when they are hurting?
15. What does Posey say a child who is embarrassed by is mother is?
16. After a night in which Posey thought she heard an intruder in the night, why does Chick say he will be angry with his mother until he leaves that house?
17. What does the caller say when Chick answers the phone at Rose's house?
18. Who taught Chick how to shave?

# FOR ONE MORE DAY

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## SECTION III: PT 1—NOON (103-121)

1. What day does Chick believe was one of the happiest of his mother's life?
2. What kind of scholarship did Chick get to help pay for college?
3. What does Chick's mother wear the day she drives him to his first day of college?
4. Why does Chick not allow his mother to go up to his dorm room with him?
5. What does Chick say when his mother asks about his wife, Catherine?
6. What does Posey tell Chick in a note just after he began college is not a license to be mean to girls?
7. Who does Chick claim was a ghost throughout his childhood?
8. Who suddenly shows up at one of Chick's college baseball games, causing him to fight back emotion?
9. Why does Chick admit he continued to play baseball all through his childhood?
10. What voice does Chick hear as he goes to answer the door in his mother's house after their visit to Rose?
11. What did Miss Thelma do for the Benetto family when Chick was a little boy?
12. Why did Miss Thelma call Chick chickadoodle-do?
13. What does Chick notice as he, his mother, and Miss Thelma drive through town?
14. What does Miss Thelma's family think she is doing?
15. When Chick's father asks to drive him home from a college baseball game, what does he do that causes Chick to feel all is right with the world?
16. What does Chick learn about his mother while he and she are visiting with Miss Thelma?
17. From what team is the scout Chick meets after a game one day during college?
18. What does Posey stress to Chick as being the most important thing in his life while he is college?

# FOR ONE MORE DAY

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## SECTION III: PT 2—NOON (122-146)

1. What does Chick consider his best day during his college years?
2. What does Chick consider the worst day of his college career?
3. Why does Posey tell Chick in *Section III: Part 2* that she did not want to ask for money from his father?
4. What did chick always think was important to a person's memory?
5. What does Chick not want to be, what frightens him about his death?
6. What does Miss Thelma say will be her legacy after she dies?
7. In a note written to Chick on his wedding day, what does Posey say she knows Chick thinks of the notes?
8. What is the final thing Posey tells Chick he must love in order to make a marriage work?
9. What does Chick say is the best thing that ever happened to him in his career?
10. What injury did Chick suffer during spring training while playing professional baseball?
11. How much longer after this injury did Chick continue to play baseball professionally?
12. What is a short stay in baseball called?
13. What profession did Chick get into after baseball?
14. Why did Chick believe his father stopped coming around after he quit baseball?
15. What is the one thing Len Benetto ever said about Posey to Chick?
16. What happens when Miss Thelma's grandchildren come into her bedroom?
17. What does Posey tell Chick about how she happens to visit people who are dying?
18. What does Chick believe about his current circumstances now that he knows he is somewhere in limbo between life and death?

# FOR ONE MORE DAY

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## SECTION IV: PT 1—NIGHT (149-173)

1. What did Chick's fourteen-year-old daughter write in the memory book at her grandmother's funeral?
2. How does Posey react when Chick asks if he can be with her if he dies?
3. What does Posey say to Chick when he asks why she never remarried after her divorce?
4. Over dinner, what does Chick request his mother tell him about?
5. What is the day that Chick wanted back?
6. Where did Chick find his greatest joy during the bleak years after baseball?
7. Who called Posey's house one afternoon while Chick was there in *Section IV: Part 1*?
8. What did this caller in *Section IV: Part 1* want from Chick?
9. Why does Chick lie to his family about a trip out of town on his mother's birthday?
10. What three things did Posey once tell Chick he needed to be successful?
11. How does Chick Benetto feel that he lost his father?
12. What does Chick learn about his mother on his fake business trip that makes him regret leaving?

# FOR ONE MORE DAY

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## SECTION IV: PT 2—NIGHT (174-189)

1. What happens when Chick hears the strange voice a third and final time?
2. What does Posey insist she and Chick do after supper on their one more day together?
3. What request did Posey make for her own funeral after seeing the custom at Jewish funerals?
4. Why did Posey say she wanted to include a unique Jewish custom at her own funeral?
5. What does Chick imagine his mother saying to him as he performs the Jewish custom she requested at her funeral?
6. Who is the Italian woman that Posey and Chick go to visit last?
7. What dish does this Italian woman make that Posey thinks Len Benetto always wanted over Posey's version of the same dish?
8. How did Posey come to find out about the Italian woman?
9. What does Chick learn about this woman that upsets him the most?
10. What one thing would Chick change about the day his mother died?
11. How did Catherine react two weeks after Posey's death to Chick's confession regarding the fake business trip?
12. What does Posey tell Chick when he confesses his guilt to her on their one more day together?

# FOR ONE MORE DAY

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## SECTION IV: PT 3—NIGHT (190-197)

1. What is Chick's earliest memory of his childhood?
2. What does Chick finally say to his mother's question on whether or not she was a good mother?
3. What does Posey tell Chick he has to do now that the day is over?
4. Where does Chick find himself when his mother disappears?
5. What definition of an echo did Chick's mother give him as a child and he remembers while talking to the narrator in the bleachers?
6. When does Posey teach Chick that an echo can be heard that he recalls now, sitting in the bleachers with the narrator?
7. How long has Chick been sober as he sits talking to the narrator?
8. Who does Chick credit with saving his life?
9. What would Chick like to do with those he loves as he sits talking to the narrator?
10. How did Chick Benetto die three years after his conversation with the narrator?
11. Where was Chick buried after his death?
12. Who does the narrator reveal themselves to be?