



Notes of Chapter 11 - if I were you

Thinking About the Text:

I. Answer These Questions.

1. At last a sympathetic audience."

i. Who says this?

Ans: Gerrard has said this

ii. Why does he say it?

Ans: An intruder asked him to speak about himself. That's why he said so.

iii. Is he sarcastic or serious?

Ans: He said this in a sarcastic tone.

2. Why does the intruder choose Gerrard as the man whose identity he wants to take on?

Ans: The intruder chose Gerrard because of the close resemblance between him and Gerrard. He hoped to impersonate Gerrard to escape as he was a murderer and the police were behind him.

3. I said it with bullets."

i. Who says this?

Ans: Gerrard has spoken the above lines.

ii. What does it mean?

Ans: He shot someone with his gun to escape as things were going wrong.

iii. Is it the truth? What is the speaker's reason for saying this?

Ans: This is not true. Gerrard has said this only to save himself from the shot of intruder



4. What is Gerrard's profession? Quote the parts of the play that support your answer.

Ans: Gerrard's profession is that of a playwright. There are number of instances that reflect this but some of them are as follows:

- This is all very melodramatic, not very original, perhaps, but..."
- Finally, a sympathetic audience!"
- In most melodramas the villain is foolish enough to delay his killing long enough to be frustrated".
- I said, ``You were luckier than most melodramatic villains."
- That's a disguise outfit; false moustaches and what not"
- Sorry I can't let you have the props in time for rehearsal, I've had a spot of bother - quite amusing. I think I'll put it in my next play."

5. You'll soon stop being smart."

i. Who says this?

Ans: This line is said by the intruder.

ii. Why does the speaker say it?

Ans: The intention behind saying the line is to frighten the Gerrard.

iii. What according to the speaker will stop Gerrard from being smart?

Ans: Intruder assumed that once Gerrard got to know about what was going to happen with him, he would stop acting smart. The intruder was planning to take the identity of Gerrard by killing him.

6. They can't hang me twice."

i. Who says this?

Ans: This line is spoken by the intruder.

ii. Why does the speaker say it?



Ans: The speaker said so because he was telling Gerrard about his murdering of a man, and he won't mind killing him too as the police cannot hang him twice for the same offence

7. A mystery I propose to explain." What is the mystery the speaker proposes to explain?

Ans: The mystery was the story made by Gerrard in order to save his life from an intruder. The story begins like that Gerrard told himself as a criminal like an intruder. He asked the intruder to meet people of different trades and to be a bit of a mystery man who is present here today and vanishes tomorrow. The game became adverse after things started going wrong. As he murdered someone and ran away from the crime scene. Unfortunately, one of his men got arrested and things got revealed which otherwise must have been burnt by his men. With this, he analysed that some troubles are in his way and that's why he must escape from the location.

8. This is your big surprise."

i. Where has this been said in the play?

Ans: The line has been spoken twice in the play. First time, the intruder spoke it while revealing his plan to kill Gerrard. On the second occasion, Gerrard spoke this to reveal his fictitious identity to the intruder.

ii. What is the surprise?

Ans: The surprise was the plan of the intruder to kill Gerrard and copy his identity in order to lead a secure life whereas on the other hand, Gerrard's secret was the fictitious identity so that he could refrain himself from getting killed by the intruder.