

Cumeth the Hour Owen Marshall



- 1 What do we learn about James Cumuth in the first Paragraph?
- 2 Another word for 'banality' (second paragraph) might be?
- 3 "Cumuth still awaited some mission worthy of him: some palpable need that would justify the cool, implacable resolution he felt inside."
Put this sentence in your own words.
You may need to find out the meanings of the following words:
palpable
implacable
resolution
- 4 What do you note about Cumuth's reading?
- 5 Cumuth doesn't open his bonus envelope. Why not?
- 6 The author tells us that Cumuth had "a pioneer ancestry".
What qualities do we see in these men?
- 7 Another word for 'reticent' might be?
- 8 And "progeny"?
- 9 A word beginning with 'h' which would explain the quality in Cumuth that he "never consciously exalted himself"?
- 10 How would you describe Mrs Burmeister's attitude to Cumuth?
- 11 Another word for 'derision'?
- 12 What do you feel about Nadine's attitude to men?
- 13 Another word for 'taciturn'?
- 14 Another word for 'periphery'?

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- 15 How is Cumuth viewed by his colleagues at Palmer's?
- 16 "He was a loner all right".
Sum up the attitudes that society has to the loner, expressed by Marshall.
- 17 Another word for 'obsequiousness' might be?
- 18 Is Cumuth obsequious?
What idea supports your answer?
- 19 Another word for 'idiosyncrasy' might be?
- 20 What do people feel about Cumuth's stock boots?
- 21 What is Wesley Igor Drom's claim to fame?
- 22 How do the following feel about Drom?
His mother?
The average citizen?
- 23 What does the author mean that "to James Cumuth he was manifest destiny"?
- 24 When Mrs Burmeister and Nadine hear Drom "murdering someone", what do they do?
- 25 What does James Cumuth do?
- 26 Cumuth's half-smile was "redolent with a stoical serenity".
Put this in your own words.
- 27 The author begins to call James Cumuth JC.
Why might this be?
- 28 How would you describe JC as he strolls through the crowds to confront Drom?
- 29 Another word for 'dispassionate' might be?
- 30 What does Marshall mean when he says, "It was a match...It was black and white, day and night, fire and water, it was the Greek guy and the Minotaur..."?
- 31 What does Nadine mean when she says, "he lived with us"?