



Study Guide for *Flush* by Carl Hiaasen

Required Reading for all Rising 6th Graders

Complete the following study guide as you read *Flush*. Be sure to bring this completed Study Guide back to school with you.

All answers must be written in complete sentences for complete credit.

Part A: Character list (The first one has been done for you.)

Characters:	Description:
Noah Underwood	About thirteen-years old; one of the heroes in the story; good fisherman and boatman; cares deeply about the environment and his family; wants to help his dad
Paine Underwood	
Abbey Underwood	
Donna Underwood	
Grandpa Bobby	
Dusty Muleman	
Jasper Jr.	
Bull	

Thom and Rado	
Lice Peeking	
Shelly	
Mr. Shine	
Miles Umlatt	
Luno	
<i>Amanda Rose</i>	

Part B: Setting

1. In what time period does this story take place?
2. In what month does this story begin?
3. Where does this story take place?

Part C: Vocabulary

1. martyr (page 22)
2. mangrove (page 28)
3. gumbo-limbo (page 60)
4. aft (page 80)
5. What do *mullet*, *snapper*, *tarpon*, and *snook* have in common? (page 36)

Part D: Study Questions

Some answers have two parts. Be sure to answer both parts so that you fully understand each question.

Chapter 1

1. Where does Noah go to see his father? Why is his father there?
2. What happened to Grandpa Bobby?
3. How does Noah's mother feel about her husband's actions?
4. What is the *Coral Queen*? What happened to it?
5. Why did Noah's dad feel that he had to take action against Dusty Muleman?

Chapter 2

1. How do Noah and Jasper Jr. get along?
2. How does Noah's dad (Mr. Underwood) know that the *Coral Queen* has been dumping sewage illegally?
3. What kind of life did Dusty Muleman lead before he owned the *Coral Queen*?
4. Why does Noah go to see Lice Peeking?
5. Why doesn't Lice offer to help Noah right away?

Chapter 3

1. What does Mr. Underwood tell Noah to offer Lice as payment for providing evidence against Dusty Muleman?
2. What legend do some people believe about the Florida Keys?

Chapter 4

1. What does Jasper Jr. do to Noah under the bridge at Snake Creek?
2. How does Noah retaliate?
3. Why does Miles Umlatt want to talk to Noah?
4. What kind of reputation does Paine Underwood have in his community? How do you know?

Chapter 5

1. What excuse does Noah try to use to see his dad? Why doesn't the deputy let him in?
2. What does Paine Underwood want Lice to do in exchange for his skiff?
3. When Noah and Lice meet up with Jasper Jr. and Bull, what does Lice make Jasper Jr. do?
4. Why do Noah and Abbey sneak out of their house in the middle of the night? What do they see?
5. What happens to Abbey at the end of chapter 5?

Chapter 6

1. What is Abbey's nasty habit and how did she get away?
2. What is the headline in the *Island Examiner*? Why is the article so embarrassing to the Underwood family?
3. Why does Lice not pick up the skiff as planned?
4. What surprising thing does Shelly tell Noah at the end of chapter 6?

Chapter 7

1. What plan do Noah and Abbey concoct to prevent their mother from seeing her husband's television interview? Is their plan successful?
2. Why does Noah sneak into the wheelhouse of the *Coral Queen*?
3. What does Noah discover about the sewage tank?

Chapter 8

1. When Shelly picks up Noah, what does she tell him happened to Lice? Why does she think so?
2. How does Shelly plan to help Noah nail Dusty Muleman?
3. Why does Noah see his father in his bedroom when he wakes up from a nightmare?

Chapter 9

1. What does Paine Underwood have to agree to do so that Dusty Muleman will drop the charges against him?

2. What plans did the sheriff have for Mr. Underwood in the morning? Why isn't he in trouble with the law?
3. Who does Noah run into at the end of the chapter? What happens?

Chapter 10

1. How do the police keep track of Mr. Underwood?
2. When Shelly visits the Underwood family at home, what news does she give them?
3. Why do Noah, Mr. Underwood, and Mrs. Underwood leave their house in the middle of the night?

Chapter 11

1. Where do the three Underwoods go to look for Abbey?
2. Why does Paine apologize to Dusty?
3. Where do the Underwoods eventually find Abbey?

Chapter 12

1. What did Abbey try to do the night before and how does she do it? Why is her evidence worthless?
2. Why does Paine Underwood go back to jail?
3. What does Noah discover when he wades into the water at Thunder Beach to retrieve an aluminum can? Why does he go back in the water a second time?
4. What does Shelly tell Noah and Abbey about a man named Billy Babcock?

Chapter 13

1. What is Mr. Underwood's new job?
2. When Noah and Abbey visit Shelly, what do they ask her to do?
3. What does Abbey do to Bull?
4. How do Noah and Abbey escape from Jasper Jr. and Bull?

Chapter 14

1. What is the code name for Noah and Abbey's secret plan to nail Dusty Muleman? Why is this the perfect name for their mission?
2. Why does Bull want to talk to Noah and Abbey?
3. Exactly how will Noah, Abbey, and Shelly carry out their plan?

Chapter 15

List **5** events that take place during *Operation Royal Flush*.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Chapter 16

1. Why do Noah and Abbey have trouble escaping in Rado's dinghy?
2. How does Luno threaten Noah and Abbey? Who saves them?
3. What happens to Noah and Abbey after they escape from Luno and Dusty?
4. Who rescues Noah and Abbey?
5. Who is the strange pirate?

Chapter 17

1. Who does Noah call after he and Abbey are rescued?
2. Where has Grandpa Bobby been all these years? What has he been doing?
3. Why does Grandpa Bobby return to the Keys?

4. What does Grandpa Bobby give to Noah to reward him for his bravery?

Chapter 18

1. What does the Underwood family see when they head down to Thunder Beach?
2. What do we find out really happened to Lice?
3. What does Jasper Jr. finally give to Noah?

Chapter 19

1. What does the Coast Guard do to Dusty Muleman?
2. Where does Grandpa Bobby plan to go? Why does he have to go?
3. What does Grandpa Bobby give to Abbey?

Chapter 20

1. What does Paine Underwood receive in the mail?
2. Why does Mr. Underwood punch holes throughout the Underwood house?
3. How much does Dusty get fined for dumping his holding tank in the basin?
4. What crime do the police accuse Mr. Underwood of committing?

Chapter 21

1. What happened to the *Coral Queen*?
2. How does Mrs. Underwood prove that her husband is innocent?
3. Who was responsible for the damage to the *Coral Queen*?
4. What does the Underwood family see at the end of the book?

