more joy in heaven

THE NOVEL STUDY
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CREDITS

Version 1.0 (2010)

This resource was produced by the Public Legal Education Association of Saskatchewan (PLEA). PLEA is a non-profit, non-government organization funded by the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan and the Department of Justice Canada. PLEA also receives generous support from Saskatchewan Justice. PLEA is supported by the Law Society of Saskatchewan, Canadian Bar Association (Saskatchewan Branch), College of Law, Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission, Ministry of Education, Saskatoon Public Library, and public libraries and regional colleges throughout the province.
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INTRODUCTION

The parole system is subject to much controversy and debate. Unfortunately, the system is frequently misunderstood and misrepresented. Inaccurate or incomplete media characterizations are often supplemented by sensational news coverage of repeat offenders committing another crime after their release. The media report little, however, of the many paroled offenders who successfully re-enter society to live productive, crime-free lives.

In order to fairly critique our parole system, it is imperative to be well-informed. Morley Callaghan’s *More Joy in Heaven* can be a useful tool for better understanding the parole system. Inspired by the true story of Norman “Red” Ryan, Callaghan’s tale of a bank robber released early from prison provides opportunities to reflect upon the purposes and functions of Canada’s justice system.

While this novel study may be used on its own, *More Joy in Heaven* has been a staple of English Language Arts classes for decades. This popularity has resulted in the development of several useful learning resources. Therefore, it is recommended that teachers consider the following lessons, activities, and questions as an opportunity to enhance their existing methods of teaching Callaghan’s novel. As well, this study can be of particular interest for approaching *More Joy in Heaven* as a cross-curricular unit of study between English Language Arts and Law.

The novel study is divided into four sections, with corresponding readings, activities, chapter questions, and suggested discussion and writing topics. When appropriate, the readings and activities are linked to particular passages and chapters, while the chapter questions are intended to encourage discussion during reading. Answer keys are provided, but most questions are without prescriptive answers in light of teachers’ professional roles of facilitating learning best-suited to their students. Please note that all page references link to New Canadian Library versions of *More Joy in Heaven*.

For an in-depth examination of Norman “Red” Ryan, the person on which *More Joy in Heaven* is based, teachers may want to check out Peter McSherry’s *The Big Red Fox*, the only full-length nonfiction account of Ryan’s life.

Teachers wishing to expand their understandings of the parole system may be interested in PLEA’s mock parole hearing kit *Understanding Parole* and PLEA’s student newsletter *Parole: Dispelling the Myths*. Recommended for Saskatchewan Education’s Law 30 curriculum, these resources introduce the fundamental concepts of Canada’s parole system. Find them online at plea.org.
Section One is designed to prepare students for reading *More Joy in Heaven*.

It is highly recommended that teachers use *Fundamentals of the Parole System* to introduce students to parole, and that teachers use *Who was Red Ryan?* to introduce their students to the real-life individual on which the character Kip Caley is based, as both of these handouts form the basis for forthcoming activities and questions.

It is also recommended that if the activity *More Joy in Heaven: The Characters* is used, teachers introduce it before commencing reading and continue to refer to it throughout the study of the novel. While there are many possibilities on how teachers could implement this activity, please note that its use would further understandings associated with various writing assignments that appear throughout the study.
**FUNDAMENTALS OF THE PAROLE SYSTEM**

Although imprisonment is the most serious sentence under Canadian law, what happens after an offender has served most of their time can be a source of confusion. When offenders are released into the community before serving their full sentence, they are granted a type of conditional release called parole.

Parole is not intended to allow criminals to “get out early” nor to avoid facing the consequences of committing crime. Its purpose is to supervise the offender’s re-entry to the community by allowing a portion of the sentence to be served outside prison walls.

The most important consideration in the parole process is the protection of society. Evidence has shown that a gradual rather than a sudden re-integration into the community is in the best interest of both the public and the offender.

Because the offender’s sentence is not over, conditions can be placed on their release that allow officials to monitor the offender’s behaviour in the community. If those conditions are not met the offender can be returned to prison to serve more of their sentence.

Because of the importance placed on supervised reintegration into society, the law requires that all offenders be considered for some form of conditional release during their sentence. As a result, when a judge sentences an offender, parole eligibility is considered. Judges are aware that offenders are eligible for release before their sentence is complete and do not expect an offender to be behind bars for their entire sentence, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

In keeping with the concept of gradual release, there are types of conditional release or parole that are intended to assist in preparing an offender for full release into the community.

**TEMPORARY RELEASES**

Temporary releases are usually the first type of release an offender may be granted. They allow offenders to do things like receive medical treatment, have contact with family, undergo counselling and participate in community service work projects. They can be escorted or unescorted. Eligibility for unescorted temporary absences varies depending on the length and type of sentence the offender is serving. Maximum security offenders are not eligible for unescorted temporary absences.

**DAY PAROLE**

Day parole allows offenders to participate in community-based activities but the offender must return nightly to the institution or a halfway house. Offenders are generally eligible to apply for day parole at a set amount of time before they can apply for full parole. For example, offenders serving sentences of three years or more can apply for day parole six months before they are eligible for full parole, while those serving life sentences can apply for day parole three years before they are eligible for full parole.

**FULL PAROLE**

Full parole allows an offender to serve the remainder of their sentence under supervision in the community. Most offenders, except those
serving life sentences for murder, can apply for full parole after serving either one-third of their sentence or seven years, whichever is less. Offenders serving life sentences for first-degree murder can apply after serving 25 years. Offenders serving life sentences for second-degree murder can apply after serving between 10 and 25 years, depending on what the court ordered at the time of the sentence. When a dangerous offender is given an indeterminate sentence the file is reviewed after seven years to see if parole would be appropriate. If the dangerous offender is not released the file is reviewed again every two years.

**Statutory Release**

In addition to parole, statutory release is another way that offenders can be released into the community before their sentence is complete. It is different than parole because it is automatic. It is similar to parole because offenders are released under conditions and supervised while they are in the community and offenders can be returned to prison if they breach release conditions. By law, most offenders are automatically released after serving two-thirds of their sentence, if they have not already been released on parole. Offenders who are serving life sentences and offenders who are serving indeterminate sentences, because they have been found to be dangerous offenders, are not eligible for statutory release.

The Correctional Service of Canada can recommend that an offender be denied statutory release if they believe the offender is likely to commit:

- an offence causing death or serious harm to another person
- a sexual offence involving a child
- a serious drug offence before the end of the offender’s sentence

In these cases the Parole Board of Canada can decide not to allow the offender to be released until the sentence is complete or to place additional conditions on the offender’s release.

Out of 3,063 federal day parole releases completed in 2008-2009:
- 85% (2,596) were successful
- 12% (370) were revoked for violating the conditions of release
- 3% (97) were revoked for a new offence

Out of 1,375 federal full parole releases for offenders serving determinate sentences completed in 2008-09:
- 75% (1030) were successfully completed
- 19% (255) paroles were revoked for violating the conditions of release
- 7% (90) were revoked for a new offence

Convictions for violent offences by offenders on conditional release (including day parole, full parole, and statutory parole) have declined steadily over the past 10 years, dropping by 36% (from 254 in 1996/1997 to 154 in 2007/2008).
FUNDAMENTALS OF THE PAROLE SYSTEM

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. When a Judge sentences an offender, their eligibility for parole is considered. Do you believe that this aspect of sentencing is commonly understood by the general public? Why or why not?

2. Consider that parole is based on the evidence-driven idea that the best way to protect society from offenders is through a program of supervised, gradual reintegration into society. How does the concept of parole work to rehabilitate offenders? How does this concept work to keep society safe?

3. Search for a news report that involves parole.
   a) Does the report adequately explain the concept of parole? Why or why not?
   b) If the report is from an online media source with message boards, do the reader comments demonstrate public understanding about the concept of parole? Explain.
   c) Given the statistics about successful parole completions, do you think the report is a fair reflection of Canada’s parole system? Justify your response.
WHO WAS NORMAN “RED” RYAN?

Although a work of fiction, *More Joy in Heaven* was inspired by the real-life story of Norman “Red” Ryan, a man long-known as Canada’s most notorious criminal.

Following a life of crime in both Canada and abroad, in 1924 Norman “Red” Ryan was convicted of bank robbery and sentenced to life in Kingston penitentiary. However, after serving only 11 years of his life sentence, Ryan gained release in 1935 under the ticket of leave program, the precursor to Canada’s modern parole system.

At the time, Ryan’s early release was influenced by the widely-held belief that Ryan had reformed from his criminal past. One of Ryan’s most ardent supporters was Kingston Penitentiary’s Roman Catholic Chaplain, Father Wilfrid T. Kingsley. As well, public opinion was influenced by newspaper campaigns that brought attention to the inhumane conditions in Canada’s prisons, and by sympathetic news stories about Ryan’s reformation. The sympathetic stories appeared mostly in *The Toronto Daily Star* and were written by Star reporter and childhood friend of Ryan, Athol Gow. These factors helped shape a positive public image of Ryan, and Prime Minister Richard Bennett personally arranged for his release three months before Canada’s general election of 1935.

However, not everyone was supportive of Ryan’s release. M. F. Gallagher, the Justice Department’s Director of Remissions, was known to be opposed. Even more notably, Ryan’s family had little support for his release, due to the hardships and grief that Ryan brought to them. Ryan’s brother Russell changed his last name to Walsh, his mother’s maiden name. Another brother Frank lost his job as a plant manager at a sporting goods company because of Ryan’s notoriety. His sister Isabel died in a sanitarium, the death said to be caused by Ryan’s impact on her. And another sister, Irene, was dismissed from a position with Dominion Express Company when Ryan robbed one of their offices. Nevertheless, Father Kingsley was able to bring some members onside.

Upon release, Ryan worked as a hotel greeter at the Nealon Hotel on King Street in Toronto, and as a car salesman for a Ford dealer. He also wrote a series of “crime does not pay” articles for *The Toronto Daily Star*. Ryan helped the Toronto Police with fund raising activities, and rubbed elbows with many of the city’s elite. However, this was not all “Red” Ryan was up to.

One night in early 1936, a father and son were shot trying to protect their car from a thief. The father died instantly, the son three years later. Ryan offered his services to work undercover to help solve the crime, but his offer was declined.

Not long after, a liquor store robbery in Sarnia left two robbers and one police officer dead. One robber was Ryan’s acquaintance Harry Checkley, a dishevelled man with a series of thefts in his past. The other was Norman “Red” Ryan. Ryan’s gun was determined to be the weapon that killed the father and son.

In the end, Norman “Red” Ryan – billed as a sort of prodigal son – duped almost everyone: the public, the media, the church, and even the Prime Minister. Rather than serving as an example of the ability of offenders to reform, he became a central argument against granting early release. Summarizing the disappointment and anger of many, Richard Bennett, then out of office, told *Time Magazine* on June 8th, 1936 “I feel the letdown very keenly.”
Norman Ryan born in west-central Toronto.

Ryan put on probation for stealing a bicycle.

Ryan convicted of stealing chickens.

Ryan twice convicted of theft.

Ryan sentenced to 3½ years in Kingston Penitentiary for burglary, theft, shopbreaking, and shooting with intent to maim following an attempt to rob a confectionary and shooting a farmer’s horse.

Ryan sentenced to 8 years for two counts of burglary and one count of shooting with intent to maim.

Ryan sentenced to two concurrent 12-year sentences for bank robberies.

Ryan received full pardon in order to fight in World War I. When abroad, Ryan stole from homes in the English countryside.

Back in Canada, Ryan attempted five bank robberies.

Ryan escaped from Kingston Penitentiary in September, *The Toronto Daily Star* popularizes his nickname “Red.”

Ryan recaptured in January and sent back to Kingston Penitentiary.

Ryan became a model prisoner, working in several prison programs including prison hospital.

Ryan released on a ticket of leave in July, thanks to the intervention of many including Prime Minister Bennett. Ryan told the *Kingston Whig-Standard* “Now I’m on the road to an honest life.”

Ryan attempted a liquor store robbery in May. Ryan and his partner in crime are both killed, along with one police officer. Ryan’s dying words were reported to be “I give up.”
MORE JOY IN HEAVEN: THE CHARACTERS

Chapters 1 and 2 introduce several key characters in More Joy in Heaven.

Kip Caley
Senator Maclean
Father Butler
Judge Ford
Denis Ritchie
Tim
Mrs. Caley
Smiley

While you read More Joy in Heaven, profile each of the above characters, where possible including:

• personal background
• relationships with other characters
• personality traits
• physical attributes

For each character, leave room so you can review and add to their profile: As the story progresses, many characters evolve.

As well, the following characters are later introduced in More Joy in Heaven. Add their character profiles upon their appearance.

Chapter 4 - Harvey Jenkins
Chapter 5 - Bishop Murray
Chapter 6 - Steinbeck
Chapter 8 - Ellen
Chapter 9 - Julie Evans
Chapter 11 - Joe Foley
Chapter 11 - Ike Kerrman
Chapters 1 through 9 of More Joy in Heaven introduce Kip Caley, a bank robber released early from prison. Due to his notoriety and subsequent reformation, Kip faced a demanding public and opportunistic acquaintances. However, he was reluctant to be pushed into the limelight.

Teachers may wish to introduce the handout The Ticket of Leave and the Parole Process Today at the end of Chapter 1. This handout will articulate the system of release Kip Caley would have been eligible for in the 1930s and outlines Canada’s modern-day parole system.

By Chapter 9, Kip secured a job and was understanding the difficulties of remaining anonymous. It is recommended at this point that teachers use Parole: After Release to allow students to consider what a modern-day parolee would experience in comparison to Kip’s experience.
THE TICKET OF LEAVE AND THE PAROLE PROCESS TODAY

THE TICKET OF LEAVE SYSTEM
Parole or early release from prison has been an integral part of Canada’s correctional system since the Ticket of Leave Act, 1899, the precursor to the modern parole system.

The Ticket of Leave Act (TLA) remained virtually unchanged since its adoption 1899 until its repeal in 1959. As the Canadian penal system developed and the population of offenders increased, many problems with this system of leave became evident. The TLA itself, for example, contained no reference to the purpose of early release and it did not have any defined criteria for leave eligibility. Under the TLA, offenders could be granted early leave from a penitentiary before the end of their sentence at the discretion of the Governor General. In practice, wardens in each institution had the power to make parole decisions, leaving the system of early release subject to abuse of discretion and arbitrariness. Moreover, the TLA did not contain any provisions to ensure surveillance of the offender on release and discretion was left with any peace officer to arrest a person on leave who was apparently “leading an idle and dissolute life without any visible means of obtaining an honest livelihood.”

In response to concerns with the ticket of leave system, a committee was appointed to inquire into the principles and procedures of early release. The Fauteux Committee (1956), as it became known, was very critical of the ticket of leave system and described the TLA itself as “archaic.” The Committee emphasized the concept of parole as “a logical step in the reformation and rehabilitation [of offenders] under appropriate legal restraint” and argued that the creation of a national board would be a positive step towards increasing the number of offenders on parole.

The enactment of the Parole Act and the creation of the national Parole Board of Canada in 1959 were direct responses to the recommendations of the Fauteux Committee. The Remission Services of the Department of Justice, which previously had jurisdiction over parole matters, was abolished and the new Parole Board was given the authority to grant, deny, terminate or revoke conditional release based on stated criteria.

Thus the creation of the Parole Act in 1959 began a system of parole for all federally-sentenced offenders that was to be uniformly administered by an independent decision-making tribunal.

THE PAROLE PROCESS TODAY
Simply because an offender is eligible for parole does not mean that the offender will be paroled. The Parole Board of Canada makes decisions concerning parole.

Most parole decisions of the Parole Board of Canada (PBC) are made after a hearing with an offender that is usually held in the institution where the offender is incarcerated. However, some decisions are made on the basis of a parole case file review. With regard to these hearings:

• the public can attend parole hearings as observers
• any member of the public can make a written request for a copy of a decision made by the Parole Board of Canada, and
• victims have the opportunity to present a prepared statement at the hearing concerning the continuing impact of the crime and any concerns they have about their own or others’ safety

Before releasing an offender the Board must consider any information from the victim as well as any requests a victim has made for release conditions.
The protection of society is the paramount consideration in any decision of release. The Board will grant parole only if in their opinion the offender will not present an undue risk to society before the end of the sentence and the release of the offender will contribute to the protection of society by facilitating their return to the community as a law-abiding citizen. The Board must assess the risk an offender poses to the community when deciding whether to release an offender. The initial risk assessment requires the Board to look at all available and relevant information about the offender including:

- the offence
- criminal history
- social problems, such as alcohol or drug use and family violence
- mental status, especially if it affects the likelihood of future crime
- performance on earlier releases, if any
- information about the offender’s relationships and employment
- psychological or psychiatric reports
- opinions from professionals and others such as police, judges, Aboriginal elders, and other information that indicates whether release would present an undue risk to society
- information from victims

The Board must also consider the statistical probability that the offender will commit another offence. They do this by looking at how often offenders with similar histories re-offend. After this initial risk assessment the Board will also look at risk factors specific to the offender such as:

- institutional behaviour
- information from the offender that indicates evidence of change and insight into criminal behaviour and management of risk factors
- benefit derived from programs that the offender may have taken, such as substance abuse counselling, sex offender treatment programs, life skills, native spiritual guidance and elder counselling, literacy training, employment, social and cultural programs, and programs that help offenders deal with family violence issues
- appropriate treatment for any disorder diagnosed by a professional
- the offender’s release plan

Questions for Discussion

1. What is the most important consideration for the parole board when considering the granting of parole?

2. What risks to society and to Kip have been posed by his release under a ticket of leave, as opposed to Canada’s current parole system?

3. What qualities of Kip’s discussed in Chapter 1 would make him eligible to be released under parole or a ticket of leave?

4. The Senator is portrayed as having a role in securing Kip’s release. What possible motivations might Senator Maclean have in seeking his release, and how would this have been possible under the former Ticket of Leave Act?

5. Would you be more confident in Kip’s release if it was sanctioned by a panel of experts, such as the parole board, rather than a ticket of leave? Why or why not?
When an offender receives parole their sentence does not end. Rather the remainder of their sentence is served in the community under supervision. There are standard conditions of release which every offender on parole must comply with including:

- going directly to their residence upon release and reporting to the parole supervisor immediately
- remaining at all times in Canada, within territorial boundaries prescribed by the parole supervisor
- obeying the law and keeping the peace
- informing the parole supervisor immediately if arrested or questioned by the police
- always carrying the release certificate and identity card provided by the releasing authority and producing them on request for identification to any peace or parole officer
- reporting to the parole supervisor as required and to the police as instructed by the parole supervisor
- advising their parole supervisor of their address of residence on release and reporting immediately any change in address of residence, any change in occupation, including employment, vocational or educational training, and volunteer work, any change in the family, domestic, or financial situation, and any change that may reasonably be expected to affect the offender’s ability to comply with the conditions of parole
- not owning, possessing, or having the control of any weapon, as defined in the Criminal Code, except as authorized by the parole supervisor

In addition to the standard conditions of release, the Parole Board of Canada may impose other special conditions that it sees as necessary in managing the offender’s risk, such as curfews, restrictions on movement, prohibitions on drinking, and prohibitions on associating with certain people (such as children, former victims, and so on). These special conditions are monitored and enforced during the offender’s supervision by the offender’s parole officer.

When an offender is placed on parole steps are taken to assess the risk the offender poses to the community and to manage that risk. The risk factors that contribute to an offender’s criminal behaviour are considered. The safety concerns and rights of many groups must be taken into account, including the general public, crime victims, and even offenders themselves. All these groups have specific needs and rights that must be balanced. Offenders have a right to humane treatment and the law does not allow the use of measures more restrictive than necessary in administering an offender’s sentence. At the same time, other groups must be protected from any safety threats that offenders might pose.

Risk management in the community involves services to continue the risk management plan developed in the institution. The parole officer ensures that the offender follows their Correctional Plan by visiting with the offender (with or without warning), family, police, employers and persons who may be assisting the offender in a program.

Parole officers are guided in their work by rules and standards. As part of the routine, parole officers write reports on the progress of each offender and discuss cases that require additional attention with their supervisors. Officers work together with many community agencies to help secure stable housing, employment, income and positive personal contacts. Some officers also deliver group programs aimed at helping offenders cope with daily life, substance abuse or a tendency to commit sexual offences.

Parole officers can take action if they believe the offender is violating release conditions or may
commit another crime. They can suspend the release and return the offender directly to prison until the risk is reassessed. Some offenders may remain in prison until the end of their sentence. Others may be released again, but under more severe restrictions, and after more supervision or community support services are in place.

**Questions for Discussion**

1. What are the kinds of conditions of release placed on a modern-day parolee? Are there any specific conditions for Kip in *More Joy in Heaven*.

2. Given the events so far in *More Joy in Heaven*, how could greater supervision of Kip work to his and to society’s benefit?

3. If you were on the Parole Board of Canada, what special conditions of release would you want for Kip Caley?

4. Could Callaghan’s book cause misconceptions for the modern-day reader about the responsibilities of those on parole?
CHAPTER QUESTIONS

CHAPTER 1
1. Consider the following passage:
   As a final test, he asked himself “What’s there in it for me?” He knew the answer was “Nothing at all” (p. 2).
   Do you agree or disagree with the Senator’s assessment of the situation?

2. Is there any significance to Kip having the car stopped so he could recount escaping from prison?

CHAPTER 2
1. For Kip, what was the impact of spending time in prison?

2. Consider how Tim selected certain friends to see his infamous Uncle. Do you think Tim used Kip for his own advantage? If so, what is Callaghan saying about human nature?

3. After shaking the hands of Tim’s friends, why do you think Kip had a change of heart about speaking to the press?

4. Kip asked the reporters “How about giving me a break?” and his mother told them to “Leave him alone!” (p. 21). Do you think the media will respect these wishes? Should they?

5. After meeting with the reporters, Kip said to himself “all I ask is that people get a chance to know how I feel and that they don’t keep away from me” (p. 23). How does this differ from his original desire for life out of prison?

CHAPTER 3
1. When Kip first saw his picture in the paper, he said “It’s what I was scared of” (p. 25). How did his attitude change after the shopkeeper gave him cigarettes?

CHAPTER 4
1. What was Harvey Jenkins’ motivation for wanting Kip to be a greeter at the Coronet Hotel’s restaurant and floor show?

2. Why did Kip want to speak to the Senator about the job? What do you think the Senator will advise?

CHAPTER 5
1. What was Bishop Murray’s concern about Kip?

2. When Bishop Murray turned down the invitation for lunch out of fear of “causing a scandal” (p. 35), the Senator changed the Bishop’s mind by promising to close their mortgage deal. What is being suggested here about the influence of money on people’s behaviour?

3. What conclusions can be made about the Senator from his actions in this chapter?
Chapter 6

1. Consider Steinbeck’s discussion about his dual role as both villainous wrestler and family man. Can Kip separate his criminal past from the reformed person he is today in the same way that Steinbeck separated his wrestling role from his personal life?

2. Smiley told Kip “My God! You don’t get the significance of the thing!” (p. 41). What is the significance of Kip’s story? Is it a story best told completely in public?

3. What would Jenkins’ motivation be for having Kip’s story retold in the papers?

4. Consider Kip’s informal role in prison as a “liaison officer” (p. 42). Is it realistic for Kip to believe, as Smiley suggested, this qualified Kip for a role on the parole board. Why or why not?

Chapter 7

1. Consider the following statement:
   “Tim’s splendidly simple admiration became very precious to [Kip]. He was afraid to say anything for fear of mixing him up” (p. 46).

   Is Kip doing Tim a favour or a disservice by not saying anything? Explain.

Chapter 8


Chapter 9

1. Kip had hoped to be able to “smooth it out” (p. 57) between Julie and Tubby and the fair boy. Did he accomplish this? What do Kip’s actions indicate about his suitability as a “liaison.”

2. When Kip and Julie became acquainted and left the diner together, Callaghan wrote “the broken coffee mug and two of the silver quarters were in the gutter and the falling snow was beginning to cover the fragments” (p. 60). What is being suggesting about the value of money?

3. By the end of the evening with Julie, “for the first time in years Kip knew the peacefulness that comes from being anonymous” (p. 65). On the other hand, after leaving the Ice Carnival in a “terribly worried” (p. 54) state, Kip noted that “Long ago he had figured out it was when he was excited that he got into trouble” (p. 54). Given these contrasting scenarios, do you think Kip is on the right path for re-integration into society?
DISCUSSION / SHORT WRITING TOPICS: CHAPTERS 1 - 9

1. When Kip read about the sermons addressing “human fellowship and society’s open door for the disinherited” (p. 54), he thought to himself that “those people [at the ice carnival] who gazed at him had probably been only thinking the same things these ministers were saying” (p. 55).

Pick one character with whom Kip has made acquaintance since his release from prison. How does this character conform to this belief about human nature?

2. Have your perceptions of parole changed from what you have read so far in this novel, and the corresponding parole-based handouts?

3. Kip is paroled in Father Butler’s care, but has yet to visit Father Butler to discuss what has happened since his release. If you were Father Butler, what advice would you give Kip in light of what has transpired? What would be your rationale for that advice?
Chapters 10 through 16 commence with Kip Caley being the focal point of New Year’s Eve celebrations, a symbolic connection to Kip’s new beginnings. By the end of this section, however, Kip faced disappointment due to being dogged by past criminal acquaintances, and Judge Ford shooting down Kip’s goal of serving on the parole board.

Because Kip’s pursuit of a seat on the parole board is a key concept in this section, *Parole Board Selection* is recommended for use with Chapter 16 when Judge Ford told Kip he will not allow him on the parole board. Alternatively, teachers may wish to adapt this activity for use as early as Chapter 6 when Smiley first introduced the idea, to begin thought processes on Kip’s suitability for this position.

Teachers may wish to use *Crime and Punishment in Canada* either in discussion of the New Year’s Eve celebrations in Chapter 10, or upon completion of Chapter 16. This handout addresses the feelings of the Mayor and many others about Kip’s symbolic connection to particular principles of Canada’s justice system.
Parole Board Selection

The Parole Board of Canada makes decisions concerning parole. The Government appoints people to the Parole Board of Canada who have successfully met all the selection and screening requirements.

Vacancies are advertised in the Canada Gazette and any interested candidates may apply for the positions. Applicants are first screened against a set of criteria, which includes an assessment of their background and related experience. This may include criminology, law, journalism, law enforcement, education, business and community service. They must have a good understanding of the criminal justice system. Candidates who meet these initial selection criteria must then undertake a written test and an in-depth interview. A list of qualified candidates is then submitted to the Minister of Public Safety Canada and appointments are made by the Government from this list of qualified individuals.

Questions for Discussion

1. In Chapter 16, Judge Ford articulated why he felt Kip was not qualified for the parole board, telling him he was “absolutely opposed to putting you in any position that will glorify you and cheapen my conception of law and order” (p. 108). Review Judge Ford’s rationale, then consider:
   a) the set of criteria candidates for the Parole Board of Canada are screened against, and
   b) Kip’s actions since his release from prison.
   Do you agree with Judge Ford? Why or why not?

2. Norman “Red” Ryan made extensive commentary about prison conditions and the correctional system, and his comments appeared in both The Toronto Globe and The Toronto Daily Star. In response to Ryan’s commentary, The Toronto Telegram wrote the following editorial on July 26th, 1935:

   that [Ryan’s] release should be made the occasion of figurative bandplaying and public declamation is altogether improper. The released man is not a national hero. He is a man who, by his future conduct, must show that he has turned from the serious crime that at one time it appeared that he had chosen as a career. His own good sense should tell him that the sooner he can slip into normal life, and get away from the demonstrative lunatics who are ready to play with his past for their own purposes, the better. If he should be weak enough to be drawn into discussions of crime and the treatment of criminals, he must remember that even his experiences in the penitentiary do not qualify him as a penologist. They give him no higher authority to speak of the treatment of crime than that of the man who has consistently obeyed the law.


   a) Do you agree with the Telegram’s assessment that a released man “must show he has turned from the serious crime that at one time it appeared that he had chosen as a career”?
   b) Do you agree with the Telegram’s statement that “his experiences in the penitentiary . . . give him no higher authority to speak of the treatment of crime than that of the man who has consistently obeyed the law”?
CRIME AND PUNISHMENT IN CANADA

Throughout history the penalties imposed for criminal behaviour have changed as different ideas about crime and punishment developed. One of the oldest ideas behind punishing an offender is retribution or revenge. Quite simply, this notion is based on the belief that persons who commit crimes should suffer because they have caused harm to others.

During the twentieth century the concept of rehabilitation evolved. It is based on the belief that addressing problems that lead to criminal behaviour in the first place will help prevent future crimes. For example, if substance abuse or poverty contributed to a person breaking the law, addictions counselling or job training could both help reduce the risk of re-offending and assist in turning the individual into a productive member of society.

Another reason behind punishing offenders is to discourage people from committing crimes. This notion, often referred to as deterrence, is three-fold. First, the mere threat of punishment is thought to prevent crime. Second, when an offender is actually punished, others see the consequences of breaking the law and may turn away from crime. Third, a person is deterred or prevented from committing another crime as long as they are actually locked up in prison.

In Canada, these notions are embodied in the sentencing provisions of the Criminal Code. Sentencing an offender should not only promote respect for the law, but contribute to a just, peaceful and safe society.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Consider Mayor Wills’ statement on page 106:

“I’m a great champion of the corrective system as opposed to the punitive system. It’s men like Kip here who keep a little hope in the hearts of thousands of anti-social characters. I like them to know he’s around here.”

1. How does the Mayor’s view of crime and punishment reflect the sentencing provisions of the Criminal Code?

2. Do you agree with the Mayor’s view? What notion or combination of notions about crime and punishment best reflect your views, and why?
CHAPTER QUESTIONS

CHAPTER 10

1. The guests at the New Years’ Eve celebrations were most interested in Kip’s former life of crime.
   a) Do you think this interest is to be expected?
   b) Do you think this interest will last?
   c) Do you think this interest is in Kip’s best interests?

2. The Senator told Kip that he was Mayor Wills’ "whole social program walking around the streets" (p. 69). What does this mean, and what implications would this have for Kip and for the Mayor?

CHAPTER 11

1. Foley believed that Kip was insincere about his reformation and was just "fronting" (p. 74) at the hotel. Is he correct?

2. The cheering Kip received after his speech was described as “his apotheosis” (p. 77). Yet earlier, Foley contended that Kip was “just a gold fish for these mugs” (p. 74). Is it possible for Kip to reach a divine-like status, yet be a “gold fish” for others? Explain.

CHAPTER 12

1. Summarize the priest’s view of Senator Maclean.

2. Discussing those still in prison, Father Butler said “I don’t know one of them that doesn’t wish you luck; I don’t know one that doesn’t seem to have a little more hope of getting out. They figure that if it worked for you it can work for any one of them. So you see, Kip, you’re on that white horse” (p. 81). Given Father Butler’s statement, what is the significance of Kip for both those in prison and for the concept of parole in general.

3. Kip was paroled in Father Butler’s care, and he asked Kip to be his gardener until the hype died. Re-read the final paragraph of the chapter (p. 82), then explain why or why not Kip should accept Father Butler’s offer.

CHAPTER 13

1. Judge Ford’s view on why Kip should not be on the parole board are mentioned. What were his objections?

2. Judge Ford “became like a child” (p. 85) and succumbed to curiosity, going into the Coronet Hotel to check out Kip. How did this leave the Judge feeling? What do the Judge’s actions suggest about human nature?

3. Judge Ford described Kip as “A bubble a boy blows out of a clay pipe” (p. 87). Discuss the meaning of the Judge’s description.
Chapter Questions...continued

Chapter 14

1. Consider Kip’s demeanour after Judge Ford left the hotel. What are the implications of Kip’s assessment of the situation as “wonderful” (p. 88)?

2. Julie’s interactions with Kip differed from most other people. She had not seen the picture of Kip at the police benefit concert (p. 91), she hesitated when Kip offered to walk her home (p. 92), and trembled when Kip tried to touch her (p. 95). Why do you think this is?

3. At the chapter’s close, it is noted that “the feeling that seemed to widen out the world for him almost as much as his parole board dream was the feeling that he had standing beside her at the stove” (p. 95). Should Kip be giving the parole board dream more standing than his private relationship with Julie? Why or why not?

Chapter 15

1. Kip felt his rejection from the parole board was “a part of life that was being denied him; the aspirations of a free man” (p. 101). Consider Kip’s original goals upon his release from prison. Do you agree with Kip’s assessment of the gravity of the situation?

2. Why would the Senator not be interested in fighting for Kip’s role on the parole board?

Chapter 16

1. When explaining why he did not want Kip on the parole board, Judge Ford told him “Look at the terrible thing they’ve done to you. You’ve lost all sense of proportion” (p. 106). Is this true? What things have been done to Kip to evidence the Judge’s claim?

2. Why did Judge Ford not want Kip on the parole board?

3. Kip told the Judge how he was “lashed until the blood ran from my body” (p. 110). To what extent would you agree that Kip’s punishment was inhumane?

4. Judge Ford described Kip as a “Soul full of violence” (p. 110). To what extent would you agree with the Judge’s assessment of Kip?
1. Because Kip is paroled in Father Butler’s care, should Father Butler have more strongly lobbied Kip to be his gardener? Or should Kip have listened more closely to Father Butler? Explain your stance.

2. Consider Judge Ford’s concerns about Kip believing “this crazy demoralizing kind of grandeur” (p. 87), Father Butler’s concerns about “what happens when the feasting is over” (p. 82), and Joe Foley’s observation that Kip is “Just a gold fish for these mugs” (p. 74). Are these statements true? What are each of these characters’ motivations for making these statements?

3. Judge Ford argued that “There’s no such thing as free will to men like [Mayor Wills]. Men are simply pushed around by forces working on them” (p. 107). The Judge seemed to disagree with this concept, stating he would have “no part in it” (p. 107). Re-examine Judge Ford’s conflict in Chapter 13, driven by his curiosity to see Kip. Do the events of that night suggest that Judge Ford succumbed to outside forces working on him? Or did the Judge visit Kip solely under his free will?
In chapters 17 through 29, with Kip Caley’s dreams of being on the parole board quashed, and his ability to attract visitors to the hotel diminished, Kip experienced frustration as his self-image deflated. His parole board dream now dead, Kip decided to be an intermediary with former criminals. Kip tried to intervene in a bank robbery being orchestrated by Foley and Kerrmann, but ended up shooting a police officer and being shot himself. Kip died after professing his love to Julie.

The deflating of Kip’s bloated image is key to the final segment of the book. Because of the media’s roots in creating the Kip Caley image, teachers may wish to use *Media, Crime Reporting, and Kip Caley* upon the completion of *More Joy in Heaven*.

As well, for historical context of the “Red” Ryan story, teachers may wish to use *Crime Reporting: Then and Now* in conjunction with the above handout. Alternatively they may wish to use this handout when beginning study of *More Joy in Heaven* to add context to the novel.
The media play a significant role in More Joy in Heaven. Readers are first introduced to some possible risks the media pose to Kip Caley in the following conversation between Father Butler and Senator Maclean in Chapter One:

“Maybe I’m worrying myself foolishly,” he said, but he still pondered. “The trouble is there’s probably more public curiosity about him since he became a good man than there was when he was a notorious bank robber.”

“Oh that’s just the newspapers. We’ll dodge them. It’ll all die down.”

“I hope so” the priest said as he got up. “He’s got a lot of pride and I hope people respect it, that’s all” (p. 4).

The experience of Kip Caley could be considered typical of media’s tendency to glorify particular individuals. Media historian Robert W. McChesney pointed out in The Political Economy of Media that beginning in the 1890s, newspapers began shifting their focus to reporting about “disaster, crime, sex, scandal, and celebrity” to spur sales. McChesney also made the point that in the face of shrinking budgets, news agencies often focus on crime stories, as their public nature makes these stories cheaper to cover than searching out other news.

**Questions for Discussion**

1. When Kip first arrived home in Chapter 2, there were reporters waiting. Kip locked the door and declared “They’re not coming in” (p. 12). Yet the reporters remained, pounding on the door.

   a) Given what transpired in More Joy in Heaven, was the media attention paid to Kip Caley in his better interest?

   b) Given what transpired in More Joy in Heaven, was the media attention paid to Kip Caley in the public’s better interest?

   c) Do you feel modern media coverage of certain people’s lives is necessary, or does coverage go too far? Cite examples.

2. According to Statistics Canada, the crime rate in Canada is at its lowest point in over 30 years. Would you have this impression from the news you see reported on a daily basis? Why or why not?

3. What is the purpose of the news media? To report facts, to gain an audience, or to sell advertising?
Crime Reporting: Then and Now

During the 1930s Toronto’s daily newspapers, The Toronto Daily Star, The Globe, The Mail and Empire, and The Evening Telegram were in intense competition. By 1933, The Toronto Daily Star surpassed The Globe to have the highest daily circulation in Toronto, a position it still holds today. Due in part to this high level of competition and the supremacy of newspapers as the news medium, Toronto’s papers had many highly-skilled writers. The Toronto Daily Star’s roster was especially impressive, including both a young Morley Callaghan and a young Ernest Hemingway.

These creative minds in early twentieth century newspapers led to captivating writing. It was The Toronto Daily Star – and more specifically Ernest Hemingway – that is credited for beginning the public fascination with Norman Ryan, due to his story “Escaped Kingston Convicts Still At Large,” a report covering Ryan’s 1923 escape from Kingston Penitentiary. Further, this story was the first journalistic reference to Ryan’s nickname “Red.”

Like several of Hemingway’s Star stories, however, “Escaped Kingston Convicts Still At Large” was merely credited to a “Staff Reporter.” This was because after Hemingway returned from a term as The Star’s European correspondent, he and his editor were at odds. The feud resulted in Hemingway frequently being denied writer’s credits. It was not until 1994 that Hemingway biographer William Burrill unearthed evidence that Ernest Hemingway was the “Staff Reporter” who publicly-dubbed Canada’s most notorious criminal “Red.”

Read the following September 11th, 1923 Ernest Hemingway story from The Toronto Daily Star, then consider the following questions.

Questions for Discussion

1. How do you think the language and narrative fashion of this story would impact the reader? Cite examples that justify your opinion.

2. Find an example of a major crime story from a current newspaper to compare to Hemingway’s Toronto Daily Star story.
   a) Is the current newspaper story as thorough as the Star story in reporting the who, what, when, where, why, and supporting facts?
   b) How has the “art” of journalism changed since the 1920s?
   c) Which do you think is the most effective report, and why?
Special to The Star by a Staff Reporter.

**Kingston, Sept. 11** – With four of the five convicts who made a sensational escape from the penitentiary yesterday still at large this morning arrangements are being made to secure bloodhounds to assist in the search. Word was also received this morning from W. S. Hughson, inspector of penitentiaries, that a reward of $50 will be paid for the capture of each of the escaped convicts.

The four men still at large, and who are believed to be hiding in the bush and swamp between the Perth road and the Cataraqui river towards Kingston Mills, are:

- **Gordon Simpson**, Toronto, serving ten years for robbery.
- **Arthur Brown**, Toronto, serving ten years for highway robbery.
- **Patrick Ryan**, alias Norman Slade, Hamilton, sentenced to 25 years and lashes for bank robbery.
- **Thomas Bryans**, Montreal, serving ten years for manslaughter.
- **Edward McMullen**, serving fourteen years for robbing a bank at Wyoming, Ontario, also escaped but was recaptured three miles from the prison, weak with the loss of blood from a gunshot wound in the hand, received from a guard who fired on the party as they escaped.

**Guards Out All Night**

This morning the guards had been out all night. They were cold and hungry. Farmers were driving in to the town or working in the fields. There were no posses. Everyone in the countryside seemed content to leave the job of man-hunting to the professional man-hunters. The guards completely surrounded the entire woods and were especially thick along the east side to prevent the criminals from breaking across the main road and getting into the woods along the Rideau river. From there they might make their way north and be able to get food at the lumber camps. Everyone was cold and hungry, but there was news.

Last night about eleven o’clock on the narrow muddy road overgrown with underbrush that divides the seven hundred acres of bush into a north and south half, four guards and a scout on horseback were stationed. It was so dark the scout could not see his horse’s head. But he heard the fence wires on the south side of the road creak. He shouted to the guards who were further down the road and then there was silence. The four men had their rifles ready.

Then in the dark there was a rush across the road. The guards fired into the dark at the sound and rushed forward. In the dark a man’s voice said: “Are you hurt, shorty?” The guards shot again where the voice came from and one of them fired point blank as a man rushed by him toward the north side of the road. The men had crossed from the south tract of the woods to the northern half of the seven hundred acres. About fifteen rifle shots were fired in the dark. No one knows if any one was hit. There is no blood and there are no bodies.

**Found Heavy Wrench**

When the sun came up this morning the guards found a hammer and a heavy wrench that the men had dropped when they were fired on while crossing the road. These were taken from Thompson’s car and had been taken as weapons when they fled into the woods. A few yards further up the road was a prisoner’s cap, one of those gray-blue Sherlock Holmes shaped caps that all the prisoners wear.
I went over the ground where the shooting occurred with Warden Ponsford this morning. He had nothing to say for publication but is confident that all the men crossed into the northern tract during the night, although the guards say they think there were only three.

Warden Ponsford would not say whether the battery of R.C.M.A. at Kingston would be called out to put a tight cordon around the woods while the sixty prison guards, who all know the men by sight and are especially trained in this sort of work, advance in a tightening ring and beat the woods for the convicts. There will be an advance, probably of this kind, some time to-day.

**Trace of Man Seen**

About nine o’clock word was brought to the warden by one of the guards patrolling the northern frontier of the woods that traces of one man had been found where he had climbed over a fence along the road that bounds the woods on the north. There was also an unconfirmed report that a farmer had seen one or two men crossing the road early this morning. If the men escape out of the north end of the woods it will be a long chase. There are several cheese factories a mile or so north of the present isolated territory, where it is believed the men will try and get food if they break through. They have had nothing since early yesterday morning.

**Trussed Up Another Convict**

It became known to-day that a long-term convict, who was stationed on duty in the stables which was set on fire by the five desperadoes to screen their bid for liberty, endeavored to foil the attempt of the five men to escape. When he tried to stop them in their desperate work, this convict was roughly handled, and when he persisted in his attempt to frustrate their plans, he was tied up with a rope inside the building and had it not been for the quick work of another convict, who found him and released him he would have been burned to death. It is understood that the action of this convict will be brought to the attention of the department of justice.

McMullen is regarded as the ring-leader in the escape. He and Slade were regarded as two of the worst convicts in the prison and both have been closely guarded since they were brought to the penitentiary as it was feared they would plot a get-away. It is believed that the five men had been planning their method of escape for some time.

**Plans Went Awry**

When back in the penitentiary McMullen stated that the plans for their escape had not worked out as they expected. He said that they figured that after they got over the prison walls they would be able to secure a high powered car from in front of the home of Mrs. H. W. Richardson, who lives close by the prison, and that they would be able to make a quick get-away. McMullen said that he understood that Mrs. Richardson was a millionaire and he was sure that the car would be close at hand for their use. When they could not get a high powered car they were glad to take a Chevrolet car that was near, but in this they were unable to make the speed they desired.

The capture of McMullen was due to the fact that he was weak from loss of blood from a shot he had received in the left hand from a revolver in the hands of Guard Allan, who chased the fleeing convicts in an automobile. When the convicts ran their car into a gateway, near Kemp’s farm, about three miles from this city, and made for the woods...
close by, McMullen had to drop out of the flight and was found lying on the ground alongside a fence near the road about one hundred feet from the car. He was unarmed and as a result of his weakened condition he was not able to put up any fight. He declared to the guards who surrounded him that if he had not been shot they would never have taken him alive.

McMullen is now confined to the hospital at the penitentiary, but it is stated that his condition is not regarded as at all serious. The shot from the revolver went through his index finger.

**Story of Escape**

It was at ten o’clock yesterday morning that a great cloud of thick, yellow-white smoke began to pour from the barn just inside the east wall of the penitentiary. It was the thick dense smoke of a burning straw stack and as it rose it cut off the view of the guard standing with his rifle in the watchtower overlooking the burning barn.

Five men, in the gray, prison clothes, ran out of the barn toward the twenty-foot, steep wall. One of them carried a long two-by-four in which spikes had been driven at intervals. The fat man carrying the long scantling leaned it against the wall and a slim kid, his prison cap pulled down over his eyes, swarmed up it to the top of the wall. He carried a length of rope, which he fastened to the end of the scantling. He made the rope fast and then slid down the other side of the wall.

A big husky with a heavy under-shot jaw followed him over. On his heels came a little runt who scrambled up the scantling like a monkey. He was followed by a thick set, ham-faced man who scrambled awkwardly over the wall.

Standing at the foot of the scantling while they all went up was a thick, freckle-faced man whose prison cap could not hide his flaming head. It was “Red” Ryan. The others who had climbed over were Young Brown, Big Simpson, Runty Bryans and Wyoming McMullen.

**Fought with a Pitchfork**

As “Red” Ryan stared up the ladder, Matt Walsh, Chief Keeper of Portsmouth penitentiary came running around the corner to see the burning barn. Walsh saw “Red” on the ladder and ran toward the scantling to try and jerk it down, shouting the alarm as he ran. “Red” saw him coming, realized that he was trapped and came down the ladder. He had left a pitchfork leaning against the jail wall for just this emergency.

As Walsh reached the ladder “Red” reached for the pitchfork. Walsh tackled him and “Red” swung with all his might on Walsh’s head with the pitchfork. Walsh went down and “Red” dropped the fork and went up the scantling and over the wall.

The men were strung out across the field outside the prison wall running for Mrs. Richardson’s house where a car was standing. The guard in the tower was still cut off by the thick smoke. Allan Forsythe, the only other guard in sight, thought that he could stop them without shooting. He had dropped over the wall and was just behind the running men. He had never shot anyone and something held him back from beginning. He shouted at the men but they kept on going.

**The Guard Shoots**

As they climbed into the little Chevrolet car belonging to “Shorty” Thompson, who was doing a painting job at Richardson’s, Allan Forsythe commenced shooting. He couldn’t tell what his shots did, but he was sure he had hit someone. The Chevrolet kept on going. Forsythe stopped a car that was passing and
Escaped Kingston Convicts Still At Large ...continued

stepped out after the car careered wildly ahead up the road.

McMullen was at the wheel of the Chevrolet – that is, he was hunched over what was left of the wheel. One of Forsythe’s shots had cut the wheel clean in two and smashed McMullen’s left hand. He drove on with his right hand, hunched low, his face paling from the amount of blood he was losing. The other two big men were in the back of the car with “Young” Brown, the wild kid. On the front seat with McMullen sat “Runty” Bryans. One of Forsythe’s bullets ripped through the back of the car and out the front above “Runty’s” head. It would have hit a full sized man in the skull.

A Wild Chase
Back of the little car was strung out a wild chase. All sorts of cars had been commandeered in Kingston. As the little motor car went along the road from the penitentiary, through the streets of Kingston and north on the Inverary road, the cars behind kept gaining. Directly behind the Ford commandeered by Forsythe, who kept on firing. The prisoners’ car was going along a narrow strip of asphalt road with houses and cottages on either side. It looked as though any minute they might be overtaken. There was no cover on either side.

Then the road widened out into country stone road. The houses fell away. They crossed the two railway tracks of the Canadian Pacific and Canadian National, dipped down a long hill, past a quarry on the left, and were in farming and bush country. On the right they were passing a long stretch of thick, hardwood timber, the trees just going yellow and red in the fall. On the top of the hill they could see it stretched out for miles ahead. The men looking out behind could see that they had a lead of two hundred and fifty yards on the nearest of the pursuing cars.

McMullen turned the car sharply to the left and ran it down the bank into a sunken field. The convicts ripped off the seats, grabbed the tool bags, the tire pump and jack, climbed the bank and cut across the Inverary road into the woods. As the last man was going into the woods Forsythe came up in his Ford. But his cartridges were gone.

There are seven hundred acres in the patch of woods the convicts are hiding in. It is bounded by roads on all sides and is surrounded by prison guards armed with rifles. Across the middle of the patch of woods runs a narrow, muddy road overhung with trees.

McMullen Captured
Last night at about six-thirty, Warden Ponsford, who is in charge of the pursuit, found McMullen about forty yards from where the men entered the McAdoo’s Woods. The warden, a kindly-looking gray-mustached man in a gray suit, felt hat and worried look in his eyes, was going over the route the men had taken into the woods when he saw a blue shirt lying under a low growing cedar. He thought it meant that one of the men was discarding his prison clothes and bent down to look. It was McMullen, white from loss of blood, lying under a low growing cedar. He thought it meant that one of the men was discarding his prison clothes and bent down to look. It was McMullen, white from loss of blood, lying under the little cedar, his shirt pulled over his head and his legs and shoes covered with grass.

Warden Ponsford pulled McMullen to his feet and called a patrol. Surrounded by twelve guards with rifles, McMullen was white and
shaky. “I’m through,” he said, “leave me alone.” His hand was still bleeding.

One of the guards said: “Well are you going to try and run, McMullen?” McMullen looked at the twelve rifle barrels: “What do you think I wanna do? Commit suicide?” They took him in a motor car back to the penitentiary over the road he had driven in the morning. He was very quiet.

Stewart Patterson, one of Warden Ponsford’s lieutenants in the man hunt, said the search parties must have passed McMullen twenty times as he lay there. The cover in the wood is so dense a man cannot make his way through it in places.

Matt Walsh, the head keeper, who was beaten up with a pitchfork by “Red” Ryan, is not seriously injured, although badly marked. He is commanding a detachment in the hunt. “I am leaving now to return to the woods where the men are believed to be cornered and where the closing in on them is due to start,” he said to-day.

Gordon Simpson was serving a ten year team following his conviction in Hamilton, Toronto and Guelph for a series of robberies which he participated in, headed by the notorious Tommy Quinn, now serving ten years in Kingston, too, along with several others of the gang. Following his arrest after a large number of shopbreakings in Hamilton, Toronto, and throughout the province, Simpson was taken to Hamilton for trial and on February 4, 1921 was sentenced to six years for shopbreaking and theft of cloth. Then he was brought to Toronto and sentenced on February 18, 1921, on five charges of shopbreaking and theft, and received a five-year sentence on each charge, the sentences to run concurrently.

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CHAPTER QUESTIONS

CHAPTER 17

1. a) After leaving Judge Ford’s office, what events transpired that led to Kip visiting Julie?  
   b) Do these events suggest Judge Ford made the right decision.  
   c) What was the significance of Kip returning to Julie when things go poorly for him?  

2. Kip decided to “do the work I want to anyway. How can [Judge Ford] stop me?” (p. 120). Is this wise? Why or why not?  

3. In Chapter 9, it was pointed out that “Long ago [Kip] had figured out it was when he was excited that he got into trouble” (p. 54). How is that reflected in Chapter 17?  

CHAPTER 18

1. Father Butler’s response when Kip asked if he would have hidden the tailor was somewhat non-committal, stating “I don’t know, I really couldn’t say. I wouldn’t say that I wouldn’t do it” (p. 124). Was Kip right to hide him? Explain.  

2. Kip “began to feel the most puzzling kind of new freedom” (p. 126) after his day with Father Butler and later alone with Julie. What should Kip take from this feeling of freedom?  

CHAPTER 19

1. Compare Kip’s reluctance to accept the wrestling job to Kip’s reluctance to accepting the hotel greeter job.  

2. Was Jenkins’ motivation for employing Kip as a wrestler similar to his motivation for employing Kip as a hotel greeter?  

CHAPTER 20

1. When Senator Maclean told Kip that he would not be allowed on the parole board, he stated “In these matters you’re never licked . . . It’s like drilling for gold. If it’s not there you try some other place– It’s not a personal defeat” (p. 101). Did the Senator take his own advice?  

2. Compare Senator Maclean’s suggestion that Kip disappear into mining country to earlier suggestions from Kip and from Father Butler for Kip’s life out of prison.  

3. Do you believe Kip to be a “bigger man” (p. 138) than the Senator?  

CHAPTER 21

1. Kip criticized Jones and Treacy’s conversation about the baseball team as about “trivial, homely little things” (p. 140). Was this conversation preferable to Kip’s glorification of past crimes?  

2. Consider Jenkins’ claims that “money made the world go round” (p. 144), and by offering Kip a wrestling job, he was “trying to give [Kip] a hand up – trying to make [him] a drawing card again – they’re tired of [him] around here, that’s all” (p. 145).  
   How did Kip’s attempt to gain the interest of Jones and Treacy’s table evidence Jenkins’ claim?  

3. Was Kip’s breakdown in the hotel inevitable?
Chapter Questions...continued

Chapter 22

1. Julie’s motivation for visiting Kip at the hotel is revealed. What was her motivation, and does it lessen their relationship?

2. Kip’s experiences have embittered him, as evidenced by the following passage:
   He was thinking of the years in the prison, the nights when he had gone over and over his life, putting a new price on everything. Then his hurt eyes were full of despair. The thing he had thought so big, this faith, the peace he had found, the innocence he had sought, had made him a clown. (p. 152).
   To what degree has Kip seen the truth of what happened to him? To what degree was Kip responsible for this embitterment?

Chapter 23

1. In response to Foley and Kerrmann’s bank robbery proposal, Kip said “You’re absolutely right about it” (p. 160) before denying he agreed to the idea. What is the significance of Kip first seeing the proposal’s merit, then chasing Foley and Kerrmann out?

Chapter 24

1. When pressed by Julie to explain why Foley and Kerrmann were in her apartment, Kip chose to only reveal that they brought his belongings over. Should Kip have revealed all the details of their visit?

2. Kip pondered that “I could get [Julie] the best clothes in America” (p. 163). What is the significance of this?

Chapter 25

1. It was noted that “neither [Foley and Kerrmann’s] voices nor their faces in any way touched that little ring of warmth that held his feeling for Julie and his mother and the priest which was something held outside their world” (p. 159).

   If this is the case, why does Kip consider his mother’s death “the end of the line” (p. 171) and turn to Foley and Kerrmann, rather than turning to Julie or Father Butler?

Chapter 26

1. Father Butler explained to Julie that if Kip took part in another crime, people would “harden themselves against all prisoners wanting a parole” (p. 177). Do you agree with Father Butler’s analysis? Is this fair?

2. Did Father Butler do the right thing by calling the police to have Foley and Kerrmann arrested?

3. Do you believe that Julie’s actions were a betrayal of Kip? Why or why not?
CHAPTER QUESTIONS ...continued

CHAPTER 27

1. What does Kip believe will happen to Foley and Kerrmann?

CHAPTER 28

1. Foley and Kerrmann “seemed much closer to [Kip] now than ever before” (p. 185). What would motivate Kip to feel this way? Are his priorities wrong?

2. It is said that Kip felt “he was at last truly the mediator between the law and those who would break the law” (p. 187). Are Kip’s actions those of a mediator? Explain.

3. The point is raised that “this brutal thing on the street . . . could have been prevented by the arrest of Foley last night” (p. 188). Do you agree, or were the police wise to wait and trap Foley and Kerrmann.

4. Why did Kip shoot the police officer?

5. Comment on the resolution of the love story of Kip and Julie. Did Julie bring Kip life or bring Kip death?

CHAPTER 29

1. How did Father Butler’s prediction of public anger in Chapter 26 come to realization when during the manhunt for Kip in Chapter 28, and the attempts to keep him alive in Chapter 29?

2. It is said that the community felt that “The betrayal of [The Senator’s] generous instinct was a betrayal of each one of them” (p. 199). Do you agree or disagree?

3. Would justice have been better served if Kip died by hanging rather than from his gunshot wounds? Comment.
1. Although Norman “Red” Ryan – and the Kip Caley character based on him – was sentenced to life in prison, his sentence only lasted 11 years due to being granted a ticket of leave. In Canada today, life sentences are a possible punishment for many serious crimes.

Does a sentence of life imprisonment really mean life in prison? Outline what a life sentence is and its rationale.

2. While More Joy in Heaven can be considered a discouraging portrayal of reformed offenders, there are many success stories of those who have been convicted of crimes, yet turned their lives around.

Profile example(s) of past criminals who have reformed for the better, and explain how their reformation reflects the goals of Canada’s justice system.

3. More Joy in Heaven only reflected a small aspect of the parole system. Canada’s modern system includes many aspects not touched on in this novel, such as parole officers and different types of release.

Examine Canada’s current parole system. What is its purpose? How have your understandings of parole changed by reading More Joy in Heaven and the supporting handouts.

4. In Chapter 18, Kip hides a the scared little man who stole a diamond ring out of desperation, as he had lost his job and his family was without clothes.

What different motivations exist for committing crimes? What are the best ways to discourage crimes and rehabilitate offenders?

5. Concerns about Canada’s correctional facilities were much debated in the 1930s, especially after the Kingston Penitentiary riot of 1932. Agnes McPhail, Canada’s first female Member of Parliament, was an advocate of improving prison conditions, and The Globe newspaper ran a campaign called “Let in the Light” to bring prominence to this debate.

Examine the history of correctional facilities in Canada, and the campaigns to improve the conditions for inmates.

6. Because it was inspired by a real story, many characters from More Joy in Heaven have real-life counterparts. The true story of “Red” Ryan is outlined in Peter McSherry’s The Big Red Fox.

Using both Callaghan’s and McSherry’s books, link Callaghan’s characters to their real-life counterparts. Compare and contrast Callaghan’s characterizations to McSherry’s accounts of the real-life people.

7. According to Peter McSherry’s The Big Red Fox, a guard for Ryan noted that “You couldn’t tell Ryan that this publicity could hurt him. He wouldn’t listen. He wanted the attention. He had to have it” (p. 86). Ryan’s frequent coverage in newspapers may be indicative of the truth in this statement.

Perform an in-depth comparison of “Red” Ryan to Kip Caley, and comment on Callaghan’s characterization. The Toronto Star online archives and Peter McSherry’s The Big Red Fox may be good starting points for research.
8. When Kip and Julie became acquainted in Chapter 9 and left the diner together, Callaghan hinted at the unimportance of money, noting “the broken coffee mug and two of the silver quarters were in the gutter and the falling snow was beginning to cover the fragments” (p. 60).

Consider those characters in *More Joy in Heaven* whose relationship with Kip was based off of monetary gain, and those whose relationship with Kip had no monetary connection. How did these relationships evolve, and which relationships were for his betterment? What is Callaghan saying about motivations based on money?

9. When Kip let the reporters into his family’s home in Chapter 2, they told him that “you were born to be a headline” and he was “a bigger headline now than you ever were” (p. 19). By Chapter 6, Smiley had suggested that Kip was suitable for the parole board, stating “Do you know anybody who could handle that kind of work better” (p. 42).

Examine the role of the media in Kip Caley’s downfall. To what degree are the media to blame for Kip’s fate?

10. *More Joy in Heaven* assigns at least some of the blame for Kip Caley’s downfall to the irresponsible actions of the media.

What is the role of the media in a modern society? What is their responsibility to the public?

11. At the closing of *More Joy in Heaven*, it said that the community believed “Everything Judge Ford stood for seemed to have been vindicated” (p. 199).

Did Kip Caley fail the justice system, or did the justice system fail Kip Caley?

12. Shoes and boots are often used for metaphorical purposes. For example, the age-old saying “Don’t judge a man until you’ve walked a mile in his shoes” is a statement about the importance of understanding individual circumstances before making conclusions about people.

In Chapter Ten, Kip purchased Julie new brown shoes and fur-trimmed galoshes, just as New Year’s Eve began. Consider the role these shoes and boots play in *More Joy in Heaven*. Is this simply a thoughtful gift, or did Callaghan mean for them to signify more? Discuss how this gift played a role in the storyline of *More Joy in Heaven* and how it is representative of some of the novel’s themes.
**Answer Keys**

**Fundamentals of the Parole System**

1. Answers will vary.

2. Answers will vary but may focus on the importance of rehabilitating offenders, and the possible risks for society by simply releasing offenders without re-normalizing them into society.

3. Answers will vary.

**The Ticket of Leave and the Parole Process Today**

1. The protection of society is the paramount consideration. Parole will only be granted if in the Parole Board’s opinion the offender will not present an undue risk to society before the end of the sentence and the release of the offender will contribute to the protection of society by facilitating the offender’s return to the community as a law-abiding citizen.

2. Under Canada’s *Ticket of Leave Act*, in practice wardens in each institution had the power to make parole decisions leaving the system of early release subject to abuse of discretion and arbitrariness. Moreover, the *TLA* did not contain any provisions to ensure surveillance of the offender on release. These problems were remedied with the introduction of Canada’s modern parole system which placed specific protocol on the release of offenders.

3. The priest noted that Kip was a “changed man” (p. 3) and “he became a good man” (p. 4). Also noted was Kip’s “new peacefulness and dignity” (p. 5).

4. While answers will vary with regard to the Senator’s motivations, because of the nature of the *Ticket of Leave Act* release could be granted in arbitrary manners.

5. Answers will vary.

**Parole: After Release**

1. In addition to the list of standard conditions, the Parole Board of Canada may impose special conditions that it sees as necessary in managing the offender’s risk, such as curfews, restrictions on movement, prohibitions on drinking, and prohibitions on associating with certain people (such as children, former victims, and so on).

   Aside from the first chapter, where it is noted that Kip is paroled in Father Butler’s care, there are no specific conditions of Kip’s release discussed, although a ticket of leave would result in certain restrictions.

2. Answers will vary.

3. Answers will vary.

4. Answers will vary.
Chapter Questions (1 - 9)

Chapter 1
1. Answers will vary, but may reflect the Senator’s weakness for “showy gestures” (p. 1).
2. Answers will vary.

Chapter 2
1. Kip’s time in prison allowed him to deconstruct his life and make peace with himself. As well, it allowed him to forge a positive relationship with Father Butler, and work with the other convicts and the prison staff (p. 9 - 11).
2. Answers will vary.
3. Answers will vary.
4. Answers will vary.
5. Kip had originally wanted to live an anonymous life in the city.

Chapter 3
1. Kip found himself okay with the attention, telling the shopkeeper “Glad you saw it in the papers” (p. 26).

Chapter 4
1. Jenkins believed that Kip was a “personality” and his grin was “worth money” (p. 30) suggesting his motivation was not contributing to Kip’s rehabilitation but rather maximizing profits.
2. Kip was concerned the position would “keep alive things I’d rather forget” (p. 31). / Answers will vary.

Chapter 5
1. Bishop Murray, while believing that it was possible for a person to change, felt that it hardly ever happened.
2. Answers will vary.
3. Answers will vary, but may reference his concern with showing off Kip at the Ice Carnival rather than listening to Kip’s worries about the job offer, his use of mortgages as a lever for influencing Bishop Murray, or his reasons for having newspapers with stories about Kip and the Senator spread about.

Chapter 6
1. While answers will vary, it could be noted that the difference between Kip and Steinbeck is that Steinbeck’s role as a villain is purely fictitious, thus making the separation easier for Steinbeck.
2. That hundreds of people were affected by Kip’s story is indication that it does hold hope for inspiring others. / Answers will vary.
3. While answers will vary, it is most likely that Jenkins is looking to promote Kip in order to popularize him for the hotel’s benefit.
4. Answers will vary.
Chapter 7
1. Answers will vary.

Chapter 8
1. Answers will vary, but may reflect the vapid nature of the interest in Kip, such as how Ellen’s “interest in [Kip] seemed to belong in this world of colored prancing figures sliding around stiffly on skates” (p. 51).

Chapter 9
1. Kip told the boys to “Get out quick or I’ll throw you out” (p. 58) and threw a coffee mug at them. He heard their mocking laughter as they ran off, suggesting that the boys learned nothing and nothing was “smoothed out.” / Answers will vary.

2. Answers will vary, but may connect to Julie’s later statement “I got to hate the way everybody admitted money was the only important thing” (p. 63).

3. Answers will vary, but could reflect concepts of successful reintegration discussed in handouts The Ticket of Leave and The Parole Process Today and Parole: After Release.

Parole Board Selection
1. Answers will vary.

2. Answers will vary.

Crime and Punishment in Canada
1. The Mayor’s comments reflect the concept of rehabilitation. Addressing problems that lead to criminal behaviour will help prevent future crimes and turn the individual into a productive member of society.

2. Answers will vary.

Chapter Questions (10 - 16)

Chapter 10
1. Answers will vary.

2. The Mayor believed in the ability of offenders to reform, and Kip was a public example. / Answers will vary.

Chapter 11
1. From what has transpired to this point, there is no evidence that would directly suggest Kip wished to again perform criminal acts.

2. Answers will vary.

Chapter 12
1. Senator Maclean’s acts of charity are indicative of a “love of power” (p. 79).

2. Answers will vary, but much like the importance of Kip to Mayor Wills, may reflect the significance of Kip’s public representation of parole.

3. Answers will vary.
CHAPTER 13
1. He still believed Kip to be “essentially lawless and violent” (p. 84).

2. The Judge was “ashamed… [that he] let his dreadful curiosity mutilate his spirit” (p. 86). / Answers will vary.

3. Answers will vary.

CHAPTER 14
1. While answers will vary, Kip’s failure to understand what transpired would seem to reinforce the Judge’s earlier suggestion that Kip’s current environment has made him “a little crazy” (p. 87).

2. While answers will vary, Julie’s distant family life and soured modelling career may have influenced her current actions.

3. Answers will vary.

CHAPTER 15
1. Answers will vary.

2. Answers will vary, but may reflect the implications of why such a battle would be “political suicide” (p. 100) for the Senator.

CHAPTER 16
1. Answers will vary.

2. While the reasons are complex, in essence he believed Kip had been “violent and lawless all [his] life” (p. 105) and had not changed, thus putting Kip on the board would “cheapen [Judge Ford’s] conception of law and order” (p. 108).

3. Answers will vary.

4. Answers will vary.

MEDIA, CRIME REPORTING, AND KIP CALEY
1. Answers will vary.

2. Answers will vary but may reflect the low-cost nature of covering crime stories. For teachers wishing to more closely examine crime data with their students, Statistics Canada has in-depth breakdowns of crime statistics by jurisdiction and over time. Find this data at www.statcan.gc.ca.

3. Answers will vary. For teachers wishing to further understand the roots of and current role of media, media historian Robert McChesney’s The Political Economy of Media, an anthology featuring 23 of his seminal works on media and society, may be of interest.

CRIME REPORTING: THEN AND NOW
1. Answers will vary.

2. Answers will vary.
Chapter Questions (17 - 29)

Chapter 17
1. a) Kip nearly hit Foley (p. 112), he succumbed to Foley’s pleas to borrow his car (p. 114),
   the two prostitutes said they heard Kip was “a gag” who will “never cool off” (p. 115), and
   Steinbeck pointed out that Kip had no shirt on (p. 116).
   b) Answers will vary.
   c) Answers will vary.

2. Answers will vary.

3. Answers will vary.

Chapter 18
1. Answers will vary.

2. Answers will vary.

Chapter 19
1. When Jenkins offered Kip the job as the hotel greeter, Kip was reluctant because it would glorify
   his reputation and make him a public figure. Now, Kip’s concern with the wrestling job is that
   it would damage his reputation as a public figure. In both instances, he sought the Senator’s
   input.

2. While answers will vary, Jenkins’ motivation for having Kip wrestle is that “I’ve a damn good
   idea we’d get a couple of good gates out of it” (p. 131), evidencing his primary concern to be
   maximizing profit.

Chapter 20
1. No. The Senator went on a two-day drinking binge after losing money in a gold mine, thus
   suggesting hypocrisy.

2. Father Butler advocated for Kip to avoid public exposure and later asked Kip to be his gardener,
   and Kip had originally hoped to avoid the public eye upon release. While the Senator’s suggestion
   to pursue “big opportunities” (p. 136) in mining country also worked to put Kip out of the public
   eye, the Senator’s suggestion is fuelled by economic gain and getting rid of Kip, whereas Father
   Butler and Kip’s motivations were based on rehabilitation.

3. Answers will vary.

Chapter 21
1. Answers will vary.

2. The table was disinterested in Kip, and only found interest when Kip talked about how much
   money he had stolen. This is evidenced in the line: “‘How much did you get?’ Jones asked
   indifferently. ‘That’s the point’” (p. 141).

3. Answers will vary.

Chapter 22
1. Julie admitted to coming back to see Kip because she found out who he was. / Answers will vary.

2. Answers will vary.
CHAPTER 23
1. Answers will vary.

CHAPTER 24
1. Answers will vary.
2. Answers will vary.

CHAPTER 25
1. Answers will vary.

CHAPTER 26
1. Answers will vary.
2. Answers will vary.
3. Answers will vary.

CHAPTER 27
1. The police will trap Foley and Kerrmann at the bank, after a robbery is committed, leaving Kip to be blamed for a “set-up.”

CHAPTER 28
1. While answers will vary, Kip has long believed himself to be an intermediary between offenders and authorities. His desire to intervene on Foley and Kerrmann’s behalf is connected to his loyalty to offenders.
2. While answers will vary, that Kip intervened in an intended robbery rather than mediated between law and order would indicate this not to be the case.
3. Answers will vary.
4. Answers will vary, but should reflect that it was “one final, anarchistic rejection of the force he felt to be the only thing that held people together” (p. 189).
5. Answers will vary.

CHAPTER 29
1. Public comments of shock and anger are put forth on pages 190 - 192, 197, and 198 - 199.
2. Answers will vary.
3. Answers will vary.