

The Time Machine Girls

BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

Book One: Secrets

Secrets is about eight-year-old Hazel and her little sister, Bess, who have more than one hundred rules to follow while visiting their grandparents' farmhouse for the summer. But the biggest one is "Don't go in the attic." So, of course, that's the first rule Hazel's 6-year-old sister decides to break.

But the girls never expected to uncover a family secret that involves a hidden time machine and a trunk full of stolen items from history. Are their grandparents' history thieves? Trying to find out sends them soaring through time, meeting historical figures, dodging danger, and learning all about the very events that helped shape history. Secrets is the first book in the Time Machine Girls series, where the girls

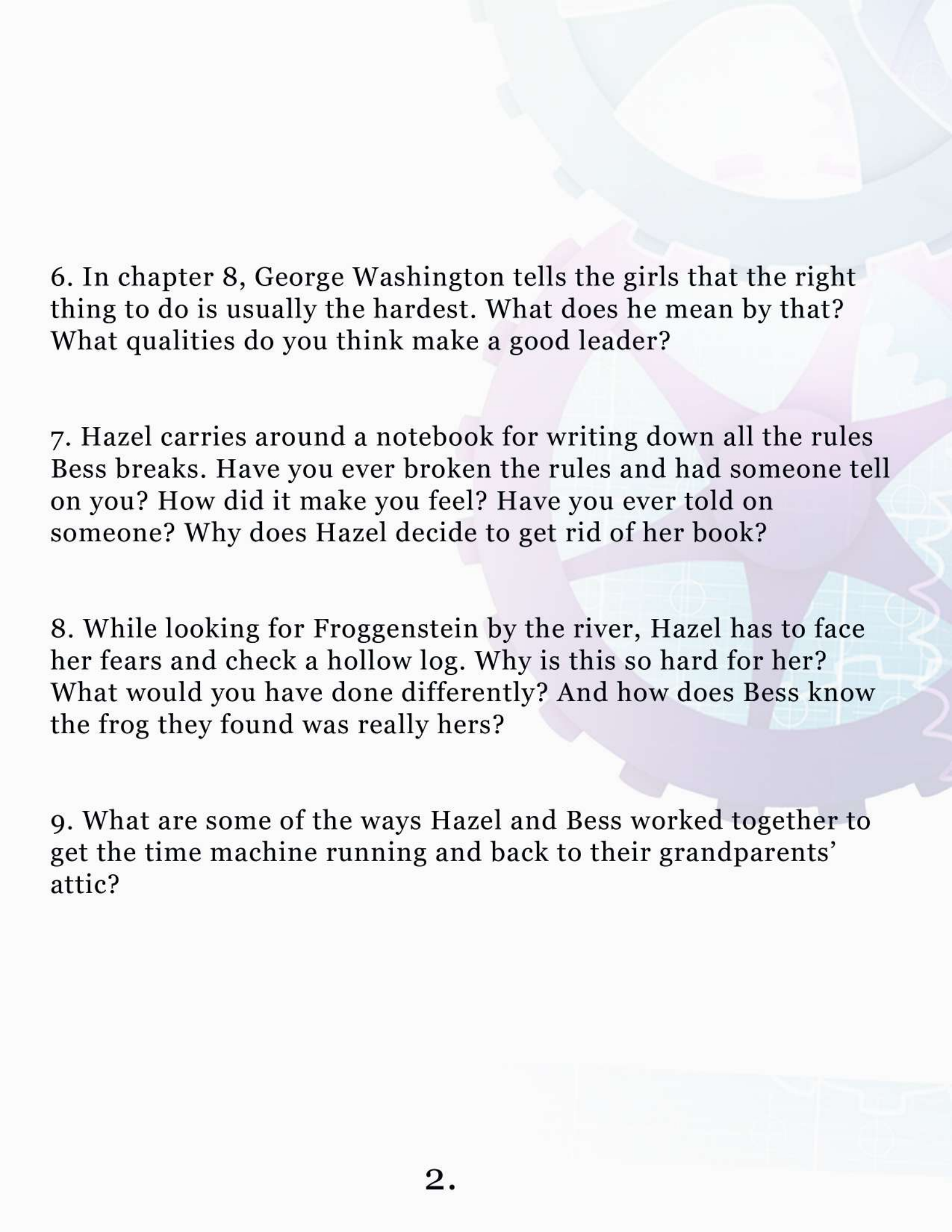
About the Author:

Ernestine Tito Jones is a children's book author who hopes to spark a lifelong joy of reading in children, with action adventure stories designed to inspire young readers to go for their dreams, stand up for themselves and others, and never accept that they can't achieve whatever they set their minds to in life.



BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

1. Describe Hazel and Bess. What do they have in common? How are they different? Which sister do you think you're more like and why?
2. A dilemma is a problem that makes you choose between two difficult outcomes. Hazel is faced with a dilemma when Bess goes into the attic during their game of hide-n-seek because she knows they aren't allowed in there. What did Hazel do when this happened? What would you have done?
3. How do the girls find the time machine in the attic, and what makes Hazel suspect it's a time machine?
4. When Hazel wakes up in a field, what makes her think she and her sister went back in time? How is 1738 different from today? Who is George Washington and why was Hazel excited to meet him?
5. After George Washington shows Bess his ax, she encourages him to chop down the cherry tree, then lie about it to his father so he wouldn't get into trouble. What does he end up doing? What would you have done if you were George Washington? How did it work out for him?



6. In chapter 8, George Washington tells the girls that the right thing to do is usually the hardest. What does he mean by that? What qualities do you think make a good leader?

7. Hazel carries around a notebook for writing down all the rules Bess breaks. Have you ever broken the rules and had someone tell on you? How did it make you feel? Have you ever told on someone? Why does Hazel decide to get rid of her book?

8. While looking for Froggenstein by the river, Hazel has to face her fears and check a hollow log. Why is this so hard for her? What would you have done differently? And how does Bess know the frog they found was really hers?

9. What are some of the ways Hazel and Bess worked together to get the time machine running and back to their grandparents' attic?

10. At the end of the book, Hazel decides she will never go into the attic again, but then she changes her mind. What made her change her mind? What did she find? What would you have done?

11. If you could go back in time to 1738 to meet George Washington, what would you say to him?

12. What did you like the best about the story, and what did you like the least?

I hope you liked the book! If you have any questions about any of my stories, or you'd just like to say hi, you can have your parents email me any time at ernestine@ernestinetitojones.com.

