The Princess Bride Final Exam Study Guide

Major Questions:


2. How does Goldman’s use of a false persona affect the story?

3. Compare Westley’s odyssey throughout the novel to the parts of the traditional heroic cycle. Please use what you remember from reading The Odyssey and/or The Iliad.

4. How does The Princess Bride parody aspects of the traditional fairy tale?

5. Who, ultimately, is the hero/heroine of this story, or is there one at all? Explain your answer.

6. Goldman wrote the screenplay for the film version of The Princess Bride. There are many differences between the two. Identify as many as you can. Why do you think Goldman made these changes? With which of his choices do you agree? Disagree?

7. How do the supporting characters change over the course of the novel (if at all)? Are they static or dynamic characters?

Identifications:

Sandy Sterling  Florin  Guilder  Helen
the Fire Swamp  the Zoo of Death  Westley  Jason
Count Rugen  Prince Humperdink  R.O.U.S.  Buttercup’s parents
Queen Bella  Princess of Hammersmith  Buttercup  Snow Sand
Inigo  Cliffs of Insanity  Cumberbund
Dread Pirate Roberts  Ryan
Thieves Quarters  Albino  Four letters
the Machine  Miracle Max  King Lotharon
Yellin  Fezzik  Helen
Jason  S. Morgenstern  Yeste
iocane powder  Domingo Montoya  Six fingers
the Countess  Horse  Vezzini
Princess Noreena  Billy  Miss Roginski

Quotations:

“As you wish”

“I am an artist.”

“Inconceivable!”
“Hello. My name is Inigo Montoya. You killed my father. Prepare to die.”

“Fool, fool, look back to the beginning is the rule.”

“You had love in your hands and you gave it up for gold!”

“Drat. That means I shall have to get married.”

“Tr...ooooo....Luv...”

“Mawidge”

“I died that day.”

“With one thing or another, three years passed.”

“Idiot. Not even the immortal S. Morgenstern could feel more parental than I.”

“She was eighteen. She was the most beautiful woman in a hundred years. She didn’t seem to care.”

“I only wish we could stay for his grief--it should be Homeric.”

“I’ll most likely kill you tomorrow.”

“to the pain”

"Life isn't fair, Bill. We tell our children that it is, but it's a terrible thing to do. It's not only a lie, it's a cruel lie. Life is not fair, and it never has been, and it's never going to be."

"And true love you can forget about too."

"But take the title words-'true love and high adventure'-I believed that once. I thought my life was going to follow that path. Prayed that it would. Obviously it didn't, but I don't think there's high adventure left any more."