

Book the First
A Mouse is Born

Chapter One ~ *the last one*

Chapter Two ~ *such a disappointment*

1. Where was Despereaux born?
2. Why did Despereaux's mother say she would have no more mice babies?
3. Why did Despereaux's father think he would die like the rest of his litter?
4. Other than his big ears and his sickly nature, what was the most alarming thing about Despereaux?
5. What was Despereaux doing when he lowered his head and sniffed the floor?

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Chapter Three *once upon a time*

Chapter Four *enter the Pea*

1. What happened when Furlough tried to teach his brother the art of scurrying?
2. Why did Despereaux refused to eat the pages of the big book as his sister Merlot instructed?
3. What was the story in the big book about?
4. What was the source of the honey-sweet sound that Despereaux heard in the castle?
5. What mistake did King Phillip make when he first saw Despereaux?

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Chapter Five ~ *what Furlough saw* **Chapter Six** ~ *this drum*
Chapter Seven ~ *a mouse in love*

1. What happened to Despereaux when he and the princess smiled at each other?
2. Who reported Despereaux's terrible, unbelievable activities to Lester Tilling?
3. Why was Lester Tilling so upset with Despereaux?
4. Why did the king command the Pea to put Despereaux down and then chase him away?
5. In addition to telling her not to cry, what other words did Despereaux speak to the Pea?

Short Answer Questions

Book the First *A Mouse is Born*

Chapter One *he last one* Chapter Two *such a disappointment*

1. Despereaux was born within the walls of a castle.
2. Antoinette said she would have no more babies because they were such the disappointment, and they were hard on her beauty.
3. The little mouse was born with his eyes open, so his father thought there was something wrong with him. Also, his ears were much too big.
4. Despereaux showed no interest in thinking about or constantly hunting for food.
5. Despereaux was not smelling for food. He was listening to the sweet sound that no other mouse seemed to hear.

Chapter Three *once upon a time* Chapter Four *enter the Pea*

1. Instead of listening and following Furlough's instructions, Despereaux stared at the light pouring through the castle's stained-glass windows.
2. Despereaux had read the words "*Once upon a time*" on one of the pages, and he didn't want to ruin the story.
3. The story was about a beautiful princess and a brave knight who served and honored her.
4. It was King Phillip playing his guitar and singing his daughter, the Princess Pea, to sleep every night. It was the sound of music.
5. King Phillip thought Despereaux was a bug.