

KERSTIN LUNDBERG HAHN
translated by Suzanne Martin Cheadle

The Lottery



THE LOTTERY

Viggo is on his way to see his friend Jack. They are going to the pub to have a few beers. Viggo wishes that he was out on the island with his dad, working with the boat. He is not at all like his friend Jack, who knows how to talk to girls. Viggo is shy. It is Friday the thirteenth, an unlucky day, people say. For Viggo, it turns out to be a lucky day. Or is it?

Superstition

Is Friday the thirteenth really an unlucky day? Discuss in class.

The scratch-off ticket

Do the students often buy lottery tickets. Do they win? What makes so many buy lottery tickets, gamble on horses and on casinos? Who is the real winner?

Put the phrases in order

Have the students work in groups. For each group, cut out the phrases on the next page (without the numbers), mix them up and ask the groups to put them in order. Then compare in class.

If I won a million kronor ...

Ask the students how they would finish the phrase "If I won a million kronor ...". Give an example (I would buy a big house).

This can be a written assignment.

What happened then?

Ask the students to write a short text about what happened to Viggo and Lottie after the ending of the book. Then compare the stories in class.



1. Viggo is going to meet Jack and have a beer.

2. I'll take a scratch-off lottery ticket, too.

3. Viggo says hi to the redhead. She's pretty.

4. It actually says one million! A one, followed by six zeroes.

5. The man punches him in the face. At the same time, he tears at Viggo's jacket.

6. He watches it float down to the water. Down among the waves.

7. A woman is standing above him on the edge of the wharf. She looks scared.

8. The guy who robbed me, he was the one in the plaid shirt. It's your fault!

9. Nothing Viggo says can help him. The police take him to jail.

10. The woman behind the counter turns around. And he recognizes her.

11. Before he goes out, he turns again and raises his hand to wave goodbye.



EXERCISES WITH KEY

Friday the thirteenth

Questions

1. Where is Viggo and what is he going to do when the book starts?
Viggo is on the bus. He is going to meet his friend Jack and have a beer.
2. Viggo is not happy about going to the pub. Where would he like to go?
He would like to go to the island and work with his dad on the boat.

Words

Find these words in the text:

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. en otursdag | an unlucky day |
| 2. uteplatser | outdoor seating |
| 3. blåsig | windy |
| 4. som vanligt | as usual |
| 5. antagligen | probably |
| 6. skulle hellre | would rather |

At the Corner Store

1. Viggo sees two girls walking by. What does he think?
He thinks that the girls probably think that he is an old man. He is thirty plus.
2. What does Viggo buy at the shop?
He buys chewing gum and a scratch-off lottery ticket.

Words

Pair the Swedish and the English words together. Write the correct figures on the lines.

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. faktiskt | 9 a scratch-off lottery ticket |
| 2. disk | 4 anything else? |
| 3. ifall | 5 behind |
| 4. något annat? | 6 coins |
| 5. bakom | 2 counter |
| 6. mynt | 10 even though |
| 7. klinga | 11 grin |
| 8. muttra | 3 in case |
| 9. en skraplott | 7 jingle |
| 10. fast, fastän | 8 mutter |
| 12. flina | 12 nod |
| 13. nicka | 1 really |
| 14. vinka | 13 wave |



Phrasal verbs

Find these phrasal verbs in the text.

stiga av	get off
gå förbi	walk past
rulla bort	roll away
böja sig ned	bend over
plocka upp	pick up

At the pub

Questions

1. At the pub, Viggo does not feel comfortable. "This has never come easily to Viggo." What does that mean, do you think?
Student's own answer. Example: Viggo thinks that it is difficult to talk to girls. He feels he must joke and be quick.

Descriptions

In this chapter, two people are described: Jack and the redhaired girl. What do they look like?

Jack

He's good-looking, with his brown hair and those dark eyes that seem to be able to charm every girl.

The redhaired girl

She's pretty. She has curly hair and faint freckles across her nose.

The Lottery Ticket

Questions

1. Viggo picks up his lottery ticket and starts scratching it. What does he have to do to win?
He has to get three squares with the same amount., He wins that amount.
2. Why does Viggo tell Jack not to shout about this, do you think?
Student's own answer.



Expressions

Find these expressions in the text.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Håller han på att bli gammal? | Is he getting old? |
| 2. Viggo får syn på lotten. | Viggo catches sight of the lottery ticket. |
| 3. Känner du att du har tur? | Do you feel lucky. |
| 4. Nej, ljuger Viggo och stoppar in lotten i sin plånbok. | No, Viggo lies, putting the lottery ticket in his wallet. |

A false friend

be lucky = ha tur

How do you say "vara lycklig" in English? (*be happy*)

Dreams

Questions

1. Why doesn't Viggo invite Emma home for a cup of tea?
He knows that she is not interested in him, only in the money. He also wants to be alone and think about his luck.
2. What does Viggo want to do with his money?
He wants to buy a boat with a real cabin so that he can sleep there.
3. This chapter ends with a so-called cliff-hanger. In what way?
Viggo does not hear the footsteps that are approaching him. We know that something is going to happen. (A cliff-hanger makes the reader want to read more.)

Verbs in the present

These phrases are all from the book. Fill in the missing verbs in the present. Try not to look at the text.

1. It **smells** like grass and dew. (*doftar*)
2. Emma **looks** at her watch. (*tittar*)
3. He **sits** down on a bench by the canal. (*sätter sig*)
4. When he **opens** his eyes, he **sees** a seagull. (*öppnar, ser*)
5. Viggo **watches** the seagull in the canal. (*tittar på*)
6. He **closes** his eyes and **leans** his head back. (*stänger, lutar*)



Verbs in the past

Change the verbs in the sentences into the past tense (*förfluten tid*).

1. It **smelled** like grass and dew. (*doftade*)
2. Emma **looked** at her watch. (*tittade*)
3. He **sat** down on a bench by the canal. (*satte sig*)
4. When he **opened** his eyes, he **saw** a seagull. (*öppnade, såg*)
5. Viggo **watched** the seagull in the canal. (*tittade på*)
6. He **closed** his eyes and **leant/leaned** his head back. (*stängde, lutade*)

The Fight

Questions

1. How does this chapter start?
A man attacks Viggo. He tries to take his wallet with the lottery ticket.
2. What happens with the lottery ticket?
It floats down to the water and is gone.

Words

Find these words that have to do with fighting.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. tar tag i | grabs |
| 2. trycker honom | pushes him |
| 3. brottas | wrestle |
| 4. fast grepp | firm grip |
| 5. slår honom | punches him |
| 6. river i | tears at |
| 7. slår tillbaka | hits back |
| 8. samlar ihop benen | braces his legs |
| 9. brottare | wrestlers |
| 10. vrider | twists |
| 11. sätta krokben för honom | trip him |
| 12. stöt | impact |



Worth a Try

Questions

1. Why does Viggo feel poorer now than before?
He had a million kronor and now he has no money at all.
2. Viggo has a crazy idea. What is it?
He is going to dive into the water and look for the lottery ticket.
3. A woman is calling to him not to jump into the water. What does she think Viggo is doing?
She thinks that Viggo is going to kill himself, to commit suicide.
4. What happens next?
The woman tries to throw a life preserver into the water, but she falls into the water herself.

Words

Pair the Swedish words with the English words.

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. kaj | 14 bobbing |
| 2. nykter | 7 clenches his fists |
| 3. försvann | 3 disappeared |
| 4. dök ner | 4 dove down |
| 5. inom synhåll | 6 edge |
| 6. kant | 13 flings |
| 7. knyter nävarna | 11 garbage |
| 8. tar tag i | 8 grabs |
| 9. trampar vatten | 18 hug |
| 10. livboj | 5 in sight |
| 11. skräp | 16 ladder |
| 12. löjlig | 10 life preserver |
| 13. slungar | 17 obviously |
| 14. guppar | 15 pants |
| 15. flåsa | 12 ridiculous |
| 16. stege | 2 sober |
| 17. självklart | 9 treading water |
| 18. kram | 1 wharf |



Dry Clothes

Questions

1. The woman tells Viggo something that happened in her life and that can explain her reaction. What does she tell him?
She tells him about an uncle who killed himself. That almost ruined her mom.
2. The writer gives us a hint about the woman. We feel that Viggo will meet her again. What is the hint?
Viggo thinks that he has seen the woman before somewhere.
3. How does the chapter end?
The woman writes her phone number on Viggo's hand.

Words

Pick 10 words in the chapter that you think are good to know. Also, write what the words mean in Swedish.

What If

Questions

1. The title of this chapter is "What if". What is it about?
What if Viggo had waited until he came home to scratch his lottery ticket.

Adjectives

Find these adjectives in the text.

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. trött | tired |
| 2. lång | long |
| 3. smutsig | dirty |
| 4. yr | dizzy |
| 5. het | hot |
| 6. sjuk | sick |
| 7. svullen | swollen |
| 8. arg | angry |
| 9. solig | sunny |
| 10. oansvarig | irresponsible |



Furious

Questions

1. The title of this chapter is “Furious”. Who is furious and why?
Viggo is furious because Jack yelled in the pub so that everyone heard that Viggo had won a million kronor. It is his fault that Viggo has lost the lottery ticket.

Words

Pair the English words with the Swedish words.

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. messy | 7 bry sig om |
| 2. robbed | 5 en klunk |
| 3. poke | 4 fnysa |
| 4. snort | 6 knuffa |
| 5. a gulp | 3 peta |
| 6. shove | 2 rånade |
| 7. care about | 1 trassligt |

A Long Walk

Questions

1. What is Viggo's mood like? How does he feel? Find words and phrases in the text that tell us how he feels.
Student's own answer. Examples: he feels empty inside, he feels like crying, everything feels empty and meaningless, what is there to live for?, does anything matter?
2. At the end of the chapter, Viggo is laughing. Why?
He gets a text message from Jack who says that there is more to life than money. Jack wants to treat Viggo to a beer.

Words

Explain these words from the book in English.

(Here are some examples of explanations.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. harbor (<i>AmE</i>), harbour (<i>BrE</i>) | where people have their boats |
| 2. luxury condo | luxury apartment that you buy |
| 3. a seagull | a white bird that lives by the sea, a sea bird |
| 4. to head toward the bridge | to walk in the direction of the bridge |
| 5. a good half-hour | more than half an hour |



A Man in Sunglasses

Questions

1. This chapter is short and very dramatic. Write a summary (*sammanfattning*) of what happens.

Student's own answer.

Words

Find these words in the text.

1. en läsk a soda
2. rycker till gives a start
3. helt säker positive
4. blåslaget bruised
5. förtjänar deserves
6. kämpar sig upp struggles to his feet

In Jail

Questions

1. Viggo tries to explain to the police officers what had happened, but they do not believe him. What do they think?

They think that he is drunk or on drugs.

2. Why is Viggo thinking of the woman he met at the canal?

He needs someone to talk to and he thinks of her because she was so friendly.

Words

Find these words in the text. They all have to do with the police and justice.

1. polisbil police cruiser
2. rånade robbed
3. stjäla steal
4. en polis an officer
5. fängelse jail
6. blodprov blood test
7. polisanmälan complaint



Sunday Morning

Questions

1. Why do the police let Viggo go?
The pub owner has dropped the charges because the guy that Viggo beat up asked him to.
2. Viggo gets a text from his dad. What does it say?
His dad wants him to come and see him.
3. What does Viggo do before he takes the bus to the ferry?
He goes into the corner store to buy chewing gum.

Words

Find these words and expressions in the text.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. skramlar | rattles |
| 2. har tagit tillbaka sin anmälan | has dropped the charges |
| 3. tacksam | thankful |
| 4. tråd | string |
| 5. dyker upp | appears |
| 6. bris | breeze |
| 7. byta (buss) | transfer |
| 8. färja | ferry |
| 9. i farten | out and about |

Lottie

Questions

1. Now, we finally get to know why Viggo thought that he recognized the woman who wanted to save him. Who is she?
She is the woman working in the corner store, who sold the lottery ticket.
2. What do you think about this story? Does it have a happy ending? Why? Why not?
Student's own answer.
3. A previous (*tidigare*) chapter was called "What if". At the end of the story, there is another "what if". What if Viggo did not have the wrong pants, the pants with no gums. What would have happened then, do you think?
Student's own answer.



Words

Pair the Swedish words with the English words.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. ha råd med | 1 afford |
| 2. tyvärr | 4 amazing |
| 3. småskrattna, skrocka | 11 awful |
| 4. förvirrande, märkligt | 14 bus stop |
| 5. brist på | 3 chuckle |
| 6. axel | 10 faint |
| 7. lock | 5 lack of |
| 8. suckar | 7 lid |
| 9. känner igen | 12 nods |
| 10. svagt | 15 raises his hand |
| 11. hemsk | 9 recognizes |
| 12. nickar | 6 shoulder |
| 13. ännu | 8 sighs |
| 14. busshållplats | 2 unfortunately |
| 15. höjer handen | 13 yet |