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Reading Notes

Detie	Heidi's aunt who has taken care of her
Heidi	young, orphaned girl
Barbie	Detie's friend
Uncle Alp	Heidi's grandfather; Tobias' father
Tobias & Adelheid	Heidi's father and mother
Bridget	Peter's mother
Grannie	Peter's grandmother

Vocabulary: Write the meaning of each bold word or phrase.

1. trudging uphill on a pair of **hobnailed** boots. _____
2. The old man lived up on the mountain like a **hermit**. _____
3. That made him more angry than ever, and **morose** too. _____

Comprehension Questions: Answer the following in complete sentences.

1. How did Detie acquire Heidi? Why does Detie take Heidi to Uncle Alp?

2. How is Uncle Alp perceived by the townspeople? Why?

3. Describe the scenery surrounding Uncle Alp's hut.

Quotations

1. *"I've looked after her up to now, but I don't mind telling you, I'm not going to turn down a good job like the one I've just been offered, because of her."*

Who said this? _____ About whom? _____

2. *"She can look after herself, though she's only five. She's got all her wits about her. She knows how to make the best of things too ..."*

Who said this? _____ About whom? _____

3. *"Then one day we heard that he'd gone to live up on the mountain and wasn't coming down any more. He's actually stayed up there from that day to this, at odds with God and man, as they say."*

Who said this? _____ About whom? _____

Discussion Questions

1. What does the first quote above tell us about Detie's character? Do you agree or disagree with her analysis of the situation? Why?
2. The author tells us that Detie is "really far from easy in her mind about what she [is] doing." What are the reasons for her uneasiness?
3. What does it mean to be "at odds with God and man"? What are the reasons for Uncle Alp choosing this lifestyle?
4. With what we know about Uncle Alp and Heidi so far, how do you think Heidi and Uncle Alp are going to get along?

Enrichment

1. Locate the towns of Mayenfield and Dorfli on a map.
2. Read the story of the prodigal son from the Bible (Luke 15). How is Uncle Alp similar to the prodigal son, and how is he different?

3. On a separate sheet of paper, draw Heidi's family tree and include the following people: Tobias, Heidi, Detie, Uncle Alp, Adelheid, Tobias' grandmother, Detie's grandmother.