

# *Crown and Jewel* *Study Guide*

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For the novel by Jeri Massi



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## Synopsis

*“For there are two courages, you know—the kind that takes dares and rides colts, and then there’s the kind that lifts its light when all else is dark and goes on in the face of sorrow and loneliness and danger, and this second is true courage . . .”*

Princess Rosewyn, the daughter of Queen Rosalynn and King Herron, occupies her time by climbing trees, riding pigs and accepting dares. She disdains royal manners and is always looking for a bit of adventure. In this pursuit, she inadvertently stumbles across a secret plot to overthrow her royal family. She also meets her wise and wonderful grandmother. Together they escape the palace to seek a plan of their own to save her family and the tiny kingdom of Bracken.

When her grandmother is captured, Rosewyn spends time in hiding with humble miners. But soon, her whereabouts are discovered and the Princess must flee across the wintry countryside. Eventually rejoining her grandmother, the Wise Woman, Rosewyn must regain strength in order to find the King and Queen and expose Sir Blackroot’s evil plot for power.

## Background Information

*Crown and Jewel* is the second in a series of “Wise Woman” novels written by Jeri Massi. The first in this trilogy is *The Bridge*, a story of Princess Rosalynn’s perilous flight from Bracken in the midst of treachery and invasion. Rosalynn finds comfort and courage as she meets the “Wise Woman” and together they seek to reveal the secret that will save the kingdom of Bracken. The third Bracken novel by Jeri Massi is *The Two Collars*. This story approaches life in Bracken from the viewpoint of Krea, a foreign slave girl. The Wise Woman offers love, comfort, and truth as Krea struggles with genuine humility and acceptance.

Wise woman stories were popular in the mid-1800s to the early 1900s. These tales often wove adventure and suspense with solid moral lessons. George MacDonald, one of the great writers of the 19th century, made use of wise woman stories in several of his own stories, such as his popular book, *The Lost Princess*.

Many of the wise woman stories have symbolic meaning. From a certain perspective, the wise woman portrays qualities of the Holy Spirit as she prods and encourages her young charges to face truth, act humbly, trust, and obey, all in response to her love, comfort, and acceptance.

Children are intrigued by stories of kings, queens, castles, and princesses. In *Crown and Jewel*, author Jeri Massi effectively combines the allure of medieval adventure with true moral lessons.

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the author to convince readers that they see or feel what the author wants them to see or feel. *Third-person narrative* is told from an “objective” viewpoint and is the most common point of view used. Third-person narrative can be *limited*, telling only actions or the thought and feelings of one or several characters, or *omniscient* (all-knowing), telling what all characters are thinking and feeling.

Examine the book and decide from what point of view it is written. Give two examples from the book supporting your answer.

### Questions:

1. What advice does the Queen give to Princess Rosewyn?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Circle four of the following adjectives that describe Princess Rosewyn’s grandmother:

strong	afraid	brave	kind	weak
wise	caring	cruel	cunning	trustworthy

3. “We go now into great darkness,” the woman said. “But there is light at the end. Have no fear.” The woman asks Rosewyn to trust her. Read this verse:

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Psalm 23:4

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8. Doubt means to question one's belief and trust in something or someone. Answers will vary.
9. According to the verses, we should place our trust in God, and also in Jesus. Answers will vary.
10. Answers will vary.

### *Chapters 9–12*

#### *Vocabulary:*

1. the principal structure of a boat or ship, running along the center from bow to stern, to which the frames are attached; 2. the trunk of a tree or a heavy clay usually of red, yellow, or brown pigment; 3. confuse; 4. promising; 5. rebuke or correct; 6. annoyance or nuisance; 7. scheme or devise used to trick someone; 8. unquestionable.

#### *Questions:*

1. She was not used to it or prepared for this kind of difficulty.
2. Rosewyn and the Wise Woman pause on their journey to rest. They are captured by Blackroot and his soldiers. Rosewyn uses her royal position to prevent Blackroot from hanging her grandmother as a kidnapper as she recalls to him the law of Bracken. The Wise Woman is bound and they begin the journey back to the castle.
3. Rosewyn defends the woman as her grandmother.
4. She quieted Rosewyn and let her know the men would be willing to put their lives on the line for them.
5. The Wise Woman tells Rosewyn not to weep, to be careful, wait with the miners for her return. Rosewyn will recognize the woman by her voice and the sight of her jewel.
6. The princess meets Crog as she is running through the forest. Crog was huge and rough-looking with a gentle heart. That Crog helps Rosewyn even when he does not know she is royalty indicates that he has a kind and compassionate heart towards all regardless of their position in life.
7. Answers will vary.
8. Rosewyn cries because she is relieved.
9. Crog had heard there was a Bracken soldier in the woods; he came to see if the soldier needed aid.
10. Beauty comes from the heart and to truly rule you must have a heart for those under you. One indication of this is a person's willingness to serve and help those of lower position.
11. Christ, even though he was God, humbled Himself, even to the point of death—the ultimate act of service.
12. Answers will vary.
13. Answers will vary.

### *Chapters 13–16*

#### *Vocabulary:*

1. longing or great desire; 2. authority or complete ownership; 3. food; 4. wisely; 5. embarrassed; 6. make believe or false appearance; 7. thoughtful; 8. asked, encouraged; 9. smooth; 10. tired.

#### *Dialect:*

A dialect is a form of speech spoken in a certain district or by a certain group of people. 1. don't; 2. a far way; 3. mother; 4. will; 5. nothing; 6. what; 7. won't; 8. elegant; 9. eaten.

#### *Questions:*

1. The miners ate an enormous breakfast and were merry at the breakfast table in order to prepare for a day of underground work.
2. Crog plans the rescue.
3. The miners planned to dig a tunnel to the castle. They were successful.
4. Crog is hesitant to take Rosewyn to the hills because of the loneliness and leaving his mother.
5. She had been trained to be a helpful guest and doing housework was part of this. We should do our work with all our heart, as if we were doing it for God Himself. Yes, Rosewyn does do her work heartily and actually comes to enjoy it.
6. To be humble is to be low in position, modest in spirit, not proud. Answers will vary.
7. Some adjectives used could be exciting, happy, chilly, fun, enjoyable, wonderful, merry, etc.
8. It was a busy, carefree, fun day and a new experience for the princess.
9. She expresses the desire to be Crog's sister, and he says she can be simply for asking.
10. Answers will vary.