S.O.S.
I need your help.
I am injured, near death, and too weak to hike out of here.
I am alone, this is no joke. In the name of God, please remain to save me. I am out collecting berries close by and shall return this evening.

Thank you,
Chad McCandless
August?
Chapter 1: The Alaska Interior
The date ___________
1. What struck Gallien as odd when he picked up the hitchhiker?

2. What fascination does Gallien say many people have with Alaska? What does it represent to them? What is the reality?

3. Why doesn’t Alex have a hunting license? What can you infer about his character based upon this?

Chapter 2: The Stampede Trail
The date ___________
1. An epigraph is short quotation or saying at the beginning of a book or chapter, often intended to suggest its theme. What mood does the Jack London epigraph evoke at the beginning of the chapter?

2. How would you characterize the 3 Alaskans at the start of this chapter?

3. How long had McCandless been dead?

Chapter 3: Carthage
The date when Wayne Westerberg first met McCandless: _____________
1. When Jon Krakauer speaks to Wayne Westerberg, how long has it been since McCandless died? _________________

2. Why does Krakauer say that McCandless changed his name?
GETTING TO KNOW CHRIS MCCANDLESS

Now that you have read a few chapters of *Into the Wild*, you have caught a glimpse of the enigmatic young man at the heart of the story. Although Krakauer is crafting a work of nonfiction, he employs many of the same techniques used in writing fiction. For example, he allows the reader to get to know Chris McCandless in the same ways that fiction authors use characterization. Write what you know of Christopher McCandless so far; you will add to the chart as you learn more.
Chapter 4: Detrital Wash
-Yellow Datsun recovered by park ranger: October 1990
-McCandless entered Lake Mead National Recreation Area in July

1. Why did Chris abandon the car that he loved?

2. Why does Krakauer say McCandless broke the law?

3. Based on what you have read of “On the Duty of Civil Disobedience,” do you think Thoreau would have approved of McCandless’s actions?

4. Double Entry Journal:

“Tramping is too easy with all this money. My days were more exciting when I was penniless and had to forge around for my next meal.”

Chapter 5: Bullhead City
Month McCandless landed in Bullhead City, Arizona: ________ 1991

1. What was the break in McCandless’ cover story? Why do you think he did this?

2. How did the two McDonald employees view Chris differently?

3. What facts did McCandless overlook about his literary heroes, according to Krakauer?

4. Do you think that overlooking the faults of your heroes is a positive or negative action?
Chapter 6: Anza-Borrego
January 4, 1993
January 1992- Franz meets McCandless

1. Why does the text suddenly move forward in time to 1993? What impact does this have on the narrative?

2. What do you think the existence of the community in Oh-My-God Hot Springs says about our idea of society?

3. What was one detail about McCandless’s character, according to Franz?

Chapter 7: Carthage
50 days since McCandless’s death

Krakauer uses this chapter to explore one aspect of Chris’s character. What is the main idea around which this chapter is organized?

Double Entry Journal:
Choose two quotes from chapter 7 that explore different facets of McCandless’s character and respond to them with your thinking. Please include page #s.
Chapter 8: Alaska: the 1950s–the 1980s

One method Krakauer uses to let the reader know Christopher McCandless is by telling stories of people who are in some ways foils to McCandless. In Chapters 8 and 9, Krakauer introduces Gene Rosellini, John Mallon Waterman, Carl McCunn, Everett Ruess, and the Irish monks known as papar. Re-read their stories and identify how these stories shed light on Chris McCandless.

Literary foil: In fiction, a foil is a character who contrasts with another character (usually the protagonist) in order to highlight various features of that other character's personality, throwing these characteristics into sharper focus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foil</th>
<th>How he sheds light on McCandless</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gene Rosellini</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Mallon Waterman</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carl McCunn</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chapter 9: Davis Gulch: the 1930s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foil</th>
<th>How light is shed on McCandless</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Everett Ruess</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish monks known as papar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INTO THE WILD
STUDY GUIDE: PART TWO
Chapter 10: Fairbanks
September 1992

1. What is the main idea around which this chapter is centered?

2. Why do you think Krakauer would have included this in the middle of his book?

Chapter 11: Chesapeake Beach
Seven weeks after Chris’s death

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>What they said about Chris</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billie</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former teammates/friends</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chapter 12: Annandale
1986

1. What did Chris do before his trip and what do you think it says about him?

2. What did Chris learn about his family and what impact did it have?
3. What do you think about the fact that Chris did not contact his sister or parents again? Do you think this was an unforgivable thing to do? Why or why not?
Chapters 14 and 15: The Stikine Ice Cap
1977

In Chapters 14 and 15, Krakauer answers those who would say that Christopher McCandless had a death wish by providing a compelling narrative of his own Alaskan adventure. After reading the two chapters, complete a Venn diagram to illustrate how McCandless and Krakauer are similar and different.

Chapter 16: The Alaska Interior
April 15, 1992

1. How does the story come “full circle” in this chapter? What feeling does this evoke in you, the reader?
2. What mistakes does Krakauer say McCandless made?

3. What is the shift in McCandless’s understanding of “happiness?” Do you agree more strongly with his new definition or his old one?

Chapter 17: The Stampede Trail
1993

1. Krakauer says that there were “no more blank spots on the map” in 1992. Brainstorm the positive and negative effects of this fact.

2. What was one mistake that McCandless did NOT make that Krakauer initially reported as an error? What point is Krakauer trying to make with this detail?

3. What does Krakauer say about youth in our culture and in other cultures? Why do you think this is?

4. Why does Roman think so many Alaskans are so hard on McCandless?