A close-up of a sword

Description automatically generated with low confidenceExtract from **Enthralled: A Viking Saga**

by Chris Wright, *Chapter 14.*

*From the point of view of Chester*

While I worked away at the lock, every noise was amplified to my ears. The

shouts and cries of the party outside sounded to me like accusations, like

screams full of murderous intent. The draught rattling through the hall was the

door opening to let my enemies in. The squeak of the floorboard as I knelt at the

lock was the footstep of a soldier about to catch me.

But they weren’t and, after just a minute of tinkering, I heard a click within the

chest, and I smiled broadly as the lock opened and I pushed up the lid. That

smile faded just a little when I looked inside. I had expected great treasures and

gold and silver. There was silver, but a meagre pile of it. The chest was almost

empty, and a quick count of the coins inside told me that to be sure that the

price would be met, I would have to take every one of them.

If they opened the chest again, there would be no hiding it, but there was

nothing else I could do. I tipped the coins into my pouch and closed and locked

the lid of the chest. Something told me that we would need Rollo and his part of

the plan after all.

A close-up of a sword

Description automatically generated with low confidence**Questions**

1. What does ‘amplified’ mean?

Made quieter Made more boring

Made louder Made more exciting

2. *‘The draught rattling through the hall was the door opening to let my enemies in.’* Were Chester’s enemy’s really coming in the door? What is actually happening here?

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3. About how long does it take Chester to open the lock?

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4. Why does Chester’s smile fade when he opens the chest?

There was no treasure inside. There wasn’t much treasure inside.

There was too much treasure. A viking caught him.

5. What is Chester worried will happen if he takes all of the treasure?

The vikings will notice it’s empty when they open it again.

His friends will tell him he’s being too greedy.

They’ll notice all of the coins clinking in his pockets.

The treasure will be too heavy for him to run and escape.

6. Why do you think Chester locks the chest again after he has taken the treasure?

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7. Chester is stealing some vikings’ own treasure to pay those vikings so they will let them leave. What might Rollo’s part of the plan be?

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If they opened the chest again, there would be no hiding it, but there was

nothing else I could do. I tipped the coins into my pouch and closed and locked

the lid of the chest. Something told me that we would need Rollo and his part of

the plan after all.

…

“Yes!” he enthused back under his breath. “Did they fall for it?”

“I think so,” I said, but even as I did, my eyes were searching for the woman

who had been handed the silver. I found her. Heading towards the hall. Towards

the chest. “We need to get out of here.”

A close-up of a sword

Description automatically generated with low confidence**Questions**

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2. *‘The draught rattling through the hall was the door opening to let my enemies in.’* Were Chester’s enemy’s really coming in the door? What is actually happening here?

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7. Chester is stealing some vikings’ own treasure to pay those vikings so they will let them leave. What might Rollo’s part of the plan be?

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8. ‘"*Yes!” he enthused back under his breath.’* Why might Rollo be speaking ‘under his breath’?

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9. Why do Chester and Rollo ‘need to get out of here’ quickly?

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**Lower Question Set**

1. What does ‘amplified’ mean?

*Made louder*

2. *‘The draught rattling through the hall was the door opening to let my enemies in.’* Were Chester’s enemy’s really coming in the door? What is actually happening here?

*Chester is imagining the worst case scenario.*

3. About how long does it take Chester to open the lock?

*A minute*

4. Why does Chester’s smile fade when he opens the chest?

*There wasn’t much treasure inside.*

5. What is Chester worried will happen if he takes all of the treasure?

*The vikings will notice it’s empty when they open it again.*

6. Why do you think Chester locks the chest again after he has taken the treasure?

*So it doesn’t look suspicious/so the vikings won’t know it’s been opened.*

7. Chester is stealing some vikings’ own treasure to pay those vikings so they will let them leave. What might Rollo’s part of the plan be?

*Cutting the ropes sails of the ships, distracting the vikings, stealing treasure from elsewhere or any other plan that makes sense in conjunction with Chester’s.*

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**Higher Question Set**

1. What does ‘amplified’ mean?

*Made louder*

2. *‘The draught rattling through the hall was the door opening to let my enemies in.’* Were Chester’s enemy’s really coming in the door? What is actually happening here?

*Chester is imagining the worst case scenario.*

3. About how long does it take Chester to open the lock?

*A minute*

4. Why does Chester’s smile fade when he opens the chest?

*There wasn’t much treasure inside.*

5. What is Chester worried will happen if he takes all of the treasure?

*The vikings will notice it’s empty when they open it again.*

6. Why do you think Chester locks the chest again after he has taken the treasure?

*So it doesn’t look suspicious/so the vikings won’t know it’s been opened.*

7. Chester is stealing some vikings’ own treasure to pay those vikings so they will let them leave. What might Rollo’s part of the plan be?

*Cutting the ropes sails of the ships, distracting the vikings, stealing treasure from elsewhere or any other plan that makes sense in conjunction with Chester’s.*

8. ‘"*Yes!” he enthused back under his breath.’* Why might Rollo be speaking ‘under his breath’?

*So the vikings don’t hear him.*

9. Why do Chester and Rollo ‘need to get out of here’ quickly?

*The woman is going to the chest to deposit the silver and will notice that it is empty.*