Chapter 18

Vocabulary

avenge – to take revenge on behalf of someone else
banish – to drive out
capacity – ability
despondency – sadness, misery, depression
eerily – strangely; in a frightening or mysterious way
embedded – lodged in place; implanted
fretful – upset; irritable
impotence – a lack of power; helplessness
inducement – incentive, encouragement, motivation
lethargy – a lack of energy; sluggishness
materializes – appears; comes out
melodic – sweet-sounding
novice – a beginner
precedes – comes before
ravings – wild, angry speeches
vulnerable – weak; defenseless
wreathing – surrounding; encircling; covering

1. As Rue is dying, what promise does Katniss make to her?

2. What final request does Rue make of Katniss? How does Katniss respond?

3. Why is a child's lullaby an appropriate song for Katniss to sing to Rue? How might the lullaby be understood in metaphorical terms?
4. After singing to Rue, Katniss cannot bring herself to leave the girl. Identify the metaphor she uses to describe Rue as she gazes at her.

5. Explain what Rue’s death forces Katniss to confront about her feelings for the Capitol.

6. What words of Peeta’s come to Katniss’s mind at this point in the story? What is significant about Katniss’s recalling them?

7. Describe what Katniss does to Rue’s body. What does she want to show the Capitol through this act? In what way is it an act of rebellion?

8. Describe the gesture Katniss uses as she says her final goodbye to Rue. What does the gesture mean, and why is it significant that Katniss makes it for Rue?

9. That evening, Katniss receives her second gift from a sponsor. What is this gift, and why is it special?
10. Throughout the morning, Katniss is so depressed that she cannot even bring herself to do the simplest tasks. What eventually forces Katniss to start moving?

11. What does Katniss find herself wishing that she could tell Peeta?

12. Why is Katniss now determined to win the Games? What does she want to achieve through winning?

13. As Katniss tries to sleep that night, she keeps replaying in her mind Rue's death and her own killing of the boy from District 1. Summarize her thoughts. Why is she upset about the boy?

14. What shocking announcement do the Gamemakers make at the end of the chapter? What is the reason for it, in your opinion?