The Lost City of Z Summaries

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Chapter 12-13 In the Hands of the Gods, The Case for Z (115-146)

This chapter again starts out with a little bit of Fawcett’s Past, while he is again dreaming about returning home to his loved ones. He thinks of the times when his children were younger, especially his son Jack whom he knew from the start had the making of a great explorer. He thinks about his friend James Murray, a weak man who had accompanied him along with his other men on an expedition. James had been frightfully slow and Fawcett could not tolerate it. Murray had decided to empty his pack to increase his speed, although without the proper supplies he soon fell ill and was no longer able to continue. Fawcett found a frontiersman who was willing to take him back to civilization. Murray and Fawcett never liked each other after that. This next chapter goes back to David Grann’s point of view, and he talks about how he wants to speak with James Lynch the reporter who had been kidnapped by Indians. But he had escaped miraculously; in most of the chapter he details his escape from the vicious tribesman. Grann then tells James that he plans on trying to find Fawcett in the Amazon.

Chapter 14-15 The Case for Z, El Dorado (147-177)

Again about Fawcett’s past he accurately details some of the native’s methods for disease treatments, such as various herb treatments and a curious whistling noise that would cause maggots to pop their head out of you to be removed. Fawcett says that there are so many recourses in the jungle that there is absolutely no need to travel through it uncomfortable as there is a way to do everything easily. Then he talks of various studies about how the natives may not be considered human as they have not had the genetic variety that current humans posses. The natives have a very selective gene pool filled with in-breeding and marrying inside the tribe and then he talks about people who search for the mysterious city of El Dorado, which leads into the next chapter. El Dorado is the supposedly lost city made entirely of gold, but as no one had any significant reports or successful expeditions all of the rumors were passed off as lies, while people had seen rather large towns and such, there was no mysterious city of gold. Even though no one had ever found anything of note, Fawcett still believed that the Amazon held the world’s greatest secrets.