

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Book #	
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Section I: Chapter Pages

- Attach sheets of your own notebook paper to this guide.
- Use your pages to record or type notes about each chapter, focussing on the main story & characters.
- Record your notes typed (or another word processor) using the format shown on the attached sheet.
- When done, upload your notes to **TurnItIn.com**, and submit them to Mr. Cushing.

Section II: Character List

- Jot down a short description for each of the following important characters from the book.

Chapter	Character	Description
1	Rebekah Levinsky	_____
	Leah Levinsky	_____
	Elias Levinsky	_____
	Mordecai Levinsky	_____
3	Kristen Swensen	_____
7	Rose Carney	_____
8	Aaron Mirsch	_____
11	Esther Greenberg	_____
13	Avir Levinsky	_____
15	Miss Albert	_____
16	Gussie Meyer	_____

Section III: Vocabulary Reference

- The vocabulary listed in this section is for your reference only. You are not required to do anything with it.

- p. 2 **shtetl** - A small Jewish town or village formerly found in Eastern Europe.
- p. 2 **pogroms** - An organized, often officially encouraged massacre or persecution of a minority group, especially one conducted against Jews.
- p. 5 **cossack** - A member of a people of southern European Russia and adjacent parts of Asia, noted as cavalymen especially during czarist times.
- p. 5 **Shabbas** - i.e., the Sabbath; The seventh day of the week, Saturday, observed as the day of rest and worship by the Jews and some Christians
- p. 8 **Talmud** - The collection of ancient Rabbinic writings constituting the basis of religious authority in Orthodox Judaism.
- p. 9 **Rosh Hashanah** - The Jewish New Year, marked by solemnity as well as festivity.
- p. 9 **Yom Kippur** - A holy day observed on the tenth day of Tishri and marked by fasting and prayer for the atonement of sins.
- p. 9 **siddur** - A Jewish prayer book containing rituals for daily, Sabbath, and holiday observances
- p. 9 **tallis** - A shawl with fringed corners worn over the head or shoulders by Jewish men especially during morning prayers.
- p. 10 **kaddish** - A prayer that is recited in the daily synagogue services and by mourners after the death of a close relative.
- p. 10 **menorah** - A nine-branched candelabrum used in celebration of Hanukkah.
- p. 10 **interminable** - Being or seeming to be without an end; endless.
- p. 12 **consul** - An official appointed by a govt. to reside in a foreign country and represent their government's interests and assist its citizens there.
- p. 13 **trachoma** - A chronic contagious bacterial infection of the membrane lining the eyelid and commonly resulting in blindness if left untreated
- p. 20 **prow** - The forward part of a ship's hull; the bow.
- p. 20 **stern** - The rear part of a ship or boat.
- p. 28 **yarmulke** - A skullcap worn by Jewish men and boys, especially those adhering to Orthodox or Conservative Judaism.
- p. 29 **kashruth** - The Jewish dietary laws.
- p. 30 **propriety** - The quality of being proper; appropriateness.
- p. 36 **appropriated** - To take possession of or make use of exclusively for oneself.
- p. 38 **privy** - A toilet.
- p. 39 **tsitsith** - The fringes or tassels worn on traditional or ceremonial garments by Jewish males.
- p. 39 **dubiously** - Fraught with uncertainty or doubt; undecided.
- p. 50 **indignantly** - Characterized by or filled with anger aroused by something unjust, mean, or unworthy.
- p. 51 **jig** - Any of various lively dances in triple time.
- p. 61 **"yold"** - (?) Some sort of Jewish put-down.
- p. 64 **jauntily** - Having a buoyant or self-confident air; brisk.
- p. 68 **retching** - To vomit.
- p. 68 **spraddle-legged** - Spread-eagled.
- p. 71 **trill** - The rapid alternation of two tones either a whole or a half tone apart.
- p. 74 **haltingly** - Hesitant or wavering.
- p. 74 **pallor** - Extreme or unnatural paleness.
- p. 76 **cursor** - Performed with haste and scant attention to detail.
- p. 78 **ornate** - Elaborately, heavily, and often excessively ornamented.
- p. 79 **hawser** - A cable or rope used in mooring or towing a ship.
- p. 84 **favus** - A contagious skin disease caused by a fungus.
- p. 84 **goiter** - A enlargement of the thyroid gland, visible as a swelling at the front of the neck, that is often associated with iodine deficiency.
- p. 85 **everted** - The act of turning inside out .
- p. 86 **alms house** - A poorhouse.
- p. 103 **piecwork** - Work paid for according to the number of units turned out.
- p. 103 **dray** - A low, heavy cart without sides, used for haulage.

- p. 105 **livery** - The hiring out of horses and carriages.
- p. 106 **sconce** - A decorative wall bracket for holding candles or lights.
- p. 107 **baste** - To sew loosely with large running stitches so as to hold together temporarily.
- p. 107 **rebbe** - i.e., rabbi; A Jewish spiritual leader or teacher.
- p. 107 **yeshiva** - An institute of learning where students study the Talmud.
- p. 111 **lye** - The liquid obtained by leaching wood ashes.
- p. 111 **discordant** - Marked by a confused or harsh sound or mingling of sounds.
- p. 113 **acrid** - Unpleasantly sharp, pungent, or bitter to the taste or smell.
- p. 114 **challah** - An egg-heavy bread that is usually braided or twisted before baking and is traditionally eaten by Jews on the Sabbath and holidays.
- p. 114 **kugel** - A baked pudding (as of potatoes or noodles) usually served as a side dish.
- p. 115 **synagogue** - A place of meeting for worship and religious instruction in the Jewish faith.
- p. 117 **heedless** - Marked by lack of attention or consideration to.
- p. 123 **armoire** - A large, often ornate cabinet or wardrobe.
- p. 123 **batting** - Cotton, wool, or synthetic fiber wadded into rolls or sheets, used for stuffing furniture and mattresses and for lining quilts.
- p. 132 **haughty** - Scornfully and condescendingly proud.
- p. 133 **malice** - A desire to harm others or to see others suffer; extreme ill will or spite.
- p. 136 **suffragette** - An advocate of woman suffrage.
- p. 146 **psalm** - A sacred song; a hymn.
- p. 146 **mazel** - (?) Some sort of Jewish well-wishing.
- p. 148 **plied** - To perform or work diligently or regularly.
- p. 151 **mitzvah** - A worthy deed.
- p. 153 **serge** - A twilled cloth of worsted or worsted and wool, often used for suits.
- p. 155 **alderman** - A member of the municipal legislative body in a town or city in many jurisdictions.
- p. 159 **shiva** - A traditional seven-day period of mourning the dead that is observed in Jewish homes.
- p. 163 **plaintively** - Expressing sorrow; mournful or melancholy.
- p. 163 **meshuga** - Yiddish for "crazy" or "foolish."
- p. 166 **jovial** - Marked by hearty feasting and good cheer.
- p. 168 **dowry** - Money or property brought by a bride to her husband at marriage.

From Russia to America

The Route Taken by Rebekah's Family

