

MRS FRISBY AND THE RATS OF NIMH

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Characters

<u>Jonathan Frisby</u>	Mrs. Frisby's dead husband one of the mice that escaped NIMH. His name was "not unknwn" in the woods.
<u>Mrs. Frisby</u>	Head of a family of field mice.
<u>Teresa Frisby</u>	The oldest of the Frisby children
<u>Martin Frisby</u>	The second oldest of the Frisby children. Martin was the biggest, a strong, quick mouse, dark-haired and handsome like his father.
<u>Timothy Frisby</u>	The thinnest of the Frisby children. He had a dark complexion like his brother and father. He was the smartest and most thoughtful. His eyes were unusually bright and shone with the intensity of his thoughts.
<u>Cynthia Frisby</u>	The youngest of the Frisby children. A slim, pretty girl-mouse, light haired.
<u>Mr. Fitzgibbon</u>	Farmer who owned the land that Mrs. Frisby's winter house existed.
<u>Mrs. Fitzgibbon</u>	Mr Fitzgibbon's wife – responsible for feeding the cat an
<u>Paul Fitzgibbon</u>	The oldest son, fifteen years old. Paul was a quiet, hardworking boy, rather clumsy in his movements but strong and careful about his chores.
<u>Billy Fitzgibbon</u>	Twelve-year old Billy was noisier and had an annoying habit of skimming rocks across the grass at anything that moved.
<u>Mr. Ages</u>	A white mouse who lived across the farm in a house that was part of a brick wall. He made draughts and powders that could sometimes save the sick from dying. Mr Ages was the second mouse that escaped from NIMH.
<u>Dragon</u>	The Fitzgibbon's enormous orange and white cat with yellow eyes.
<u>Jeremy</u>	The young crow that Mrs. Frisby freed by gnawing through the shiny string tangled in his feet. This is the crow that flew Mrs. Frisby to talk to The Owl.
<u>A Lady Shrew</u>	Mrs. Frisby's neighbor at their winter house. A tiny thing scarcely bigger than a peanut, but with a wit as sharp as teeth.
<u>The Owl</u>	Recognized as the oldest animal in the woods whom all the birds went to when seeking advice.
<u>Brutus</u>	A greatly oversized and muscular rat that was guarding the entrance to the rat's home when Mrs. Frisby first approached.
<u>Justin</u>	One of the escaped rats that escaped from NIMH. He was the captain of the guard and usually, acted as sentry guarding the door at the rosebush. He was alert, dark gray in color and extraordinarily handsome.
<u>Nicodemus</u>	The leader for the rats. He had a scar on his face that ran across his left eye which was covered by a black patch, and carried a satchel – rather like a handbag – by the strap over his shoulders. He was one of the rats that escaped from NIMH.

<u>Isabella (aka Izzy)</u>	Young girl rat Mrs. Frisby meets in the library in the rat's home. Izzy's father and mother were from NIMH.
<u>Jenner</u>	One of the rats from NIMH that didn't like The Plan and deserted with six others. He and the other xx were found dead in town. Nicodemus' childhood friend.
<u>Arthur</u>	Arthur was the rat's chief engineer.
<u>Gerald</u>	Nicodemus' older brother who usually went to market with he and Jenner. Nicodemus hasn't seen him since his capture.
<u>Dr Schultz</u>	The lead neurologist at NIMH studying whether certain injections could help mice & rats learn more and faster. He wore a heavy white coat and horn-rimmed glasses.
<u>George</u>	Dr Shultz' male assistant, a graduate student in biology.
<u>Julie</u>	Dr Schultz' female assistant, a graduate student in biology.
<u>Mr. Gordon Boniface</u>	Owner of the Boniface estate, the house in which the rats spent their first winter. He was away on his honeymoon. The house had a study with walls lined with books.
<u>The Toy Tinker</u>	A peddler and mender of toys who died in the woods leaving his truck full on miniature tools and small motors for the rats to use.
<u>Sullivan</u>	Another rat. A great friend of Arthur's an like him had a particular interest in engines and electricity.
<u>Porgy</u>	The Fitzgibbons' yellow canary who had lived in the bird cage for five years, until she died recently of old age.
<u>Janice</u>	One of Mrs. Frisby's neighbors at the summer house.

Questions

1. How did Jeremy meet Mrs Frisby? (*She rescued him from Dragon.*)
2. Why didn't the owl come out of the tree? (*He didn't need to hunt yet?*)
3. Why did the shrew hold a stalk of straw? (*to test how frozen the ground was in order to determine how many more days until the tractor comes*)
4. What was the sickness of Timothy? (*Pneumonia*)
5. Where does Mrs Frisby live? (*in a damaged cinder block in Mr Fitzgibbon's garden in the winter and in the summer at the brook's edge.)*
6. Who does Mrs. Frisby seek advice from? (*The owl*)
7. Where is the owl's home? (*near the top of the tree there is a hollow in the trunk of a very large beech tree in the woods - one mile from the garden.*)
8. Who does the owl advise Mrs. Frisby to seek help from? (*the rats*)

9. Where do the rats live? (*under the rose bush*)
10. What's so special about these rats? (*electric lights and lifts/teach their young to read*)
11. How many times did Mrs. Frisby have to gnaw the string to free Jeremy? (*three times to get it off*)
12. Where was Mrs. Frisby's hiding spot in the garden? (*a corner post in the garden, nearest the farmhouse and the tractor shed, a knot hole a few inches above the ground with a hollow place behind it.*)
13. What did the river look like to Mrs. Frisby as Jeremy was taking her to the Owl's? (*a wide fearsome snake blue-green in color, coiling through the woods.*)
14. What did the owl tell Mrs. Frisby to remember? (*move the house into the lee of the stone, and the names: Justin and Nicodemus.*)
15. How did Mr. Frisby die? (*caught by Dragon while putting sleeping powder in his food bowl.*)
16. How did Mrs. Frisby get into the rats home after Brutus turned her away? (*she ran into Mr Ages on the way back up the tunnel to the main entrance in the rosebush.*)
17. How did Mr Ages fall and break his leg? (*running away after putting sleeping potion in Dragon's food bowl.*)
18. What promise did Mrs. Frisby have to make to be granted access to the rat's entrance? (*she had to promise that she would never tell anyone anything at all about what she saw or heard.*)
19. What was NIMH? (*The building in which Dr Shultz's scientific experiment took place.*)
20. What was The Plan? (*How to create a civilization without stealing anything from anyone – such as food, electricity, etc. Becoming farmers, hunters, etc.*)
21. How long had the rats had electricity? (*five years*)
22. Where did the rats get their electrical source from? (*tapping into the underground power cable leading from Mr Fitzgibbon's house to the tractor shed*)
23. Why were the rats and mice at NIMH? (*they were laboratory study animals for Dr. Shultz*)

24. How long did the rats stay in captivity at NIMH? (*three years*)
25. What had the rats of NIMH in control group A been injected with? (*new DNA and steroids*)
26. Which was the first rat to break out of the cage to get a look around? (*Justin*)
27. How did the rats escape NIMH? (*through the air conditioning duct*).
28. Why did the rats keep to themselves? (*They were different from other rats and didn't want to be noticed.*)
29. What was the name of the place the rats were re-locating to? (*Thorn Valley*)
30. How large did the rats colony grow? (*115*)
31. Who captures Mrs. Frisby and where does she spend the evening? (*Billy and in a bird cage*)
32. What does Mrs. Frisby hear while in captivity? (*Seven rats had died in Henderson's hardware store attempting to steal motors. And Dr Shultz came to investigate after newspaper headline. Dr Shultz is coming to Mr. Fitzgibbon's farm because of all the rats.*)
33. Why were the rats having trouble moving Mrs. Frisby's cinderblock home? (*Her neighbor, the lady shrew bit Arthur's leg and would not let them move the house*)
34. How many rats made it out of NIMH? How many mice? (*20 rats, 2 mice*).