

## Shadows and Tail Trees



### 1. What happens in the chapter?

The events in this chapter take place on the same day in the afternoon. The boys keep walking up the mountain to see if they can find the beast. Ralph wishes he were neat and clean in his comfortable home. Faced by the huge ocean, Ralph feels it is impossible that they will ever be rescued, but Simon tells him he will go home again; they smile at each other in friendship.

A boar (wild pig) appears and Ralph wounds it with his spear. He is thrilled by this and by the respect the boys show him, but Jack blames him for the wound on his arm from the boar's tusks (horns). Full of excitement, Ralph joins enthusiastically in the dance of "Kill the pig" and Robert, acting the part of the pig, is hurt by the boys, who are all violently over-excited. Jack suggests that next time they must use a littun in their dance. He cannot curb his violent tendencies. It is getting late, but they go on with their journey up the mountain.

Ralph worries about Piggy and the littluns, who have been left alone, and Simon runs back to the beach to tell them where the older boys are going. The others continue to climb. Then, as the route becomes more dangerous and it is getting darker, the boys do not want to go on. However, Jack decides to climb higher and challenges Ralph, mocking him for being afraid. Ralph asks Jack why he hates him, but gets no response. Roger joins the two as they climb higher while the rest go back. Then Jack goes on alone but is soon back, terrified, saying he has seen the beast. Ralph and Roger climb up and see the hunched (bent over) figure of the pilot, which, to them, looks like a beast. Terrified, the three run away down the mountain.

