



April 2-16, 2018

- 1 Imagine you are with Jennifer and David when they see the cabin for the first time. What would your initial reaction be? What are the pros of living there? What are the cons?
- 2 Describe how Jennifer and David's relationship changed after discovering their financial situation. How did they recover? How did their relationship grow over the course of the book?
- 3 Why do you think Jennifer decided to take a teaching job out of state? What did that time away from the cabin and her husband teach her?
- 4 Jennifer feels a deep connection to her Appalachian roots and her ancestors who also lived off the land. How does that influence impact her daily life, even after her grandmother dies?
- 5 Being an educator while also living in the cabin, Jennifer sees the merits of both a formal education and a cultural education, where information is passed down from one generation to the next. How does she benefit from both of these? How do you benefit from both in your own life?
- 6 Why do you think David adjusts so much more easily to life at the cabin than Jennifer?
- 7 Imagine you and a spouse, family member, or friend must make this move. Who do you think would have a better time adjusting? What challenges would the two of you face?
- 8 Throughout *Flat Broke with Two Goats*, cooking seems to be an outlet to help Jennifer process her family's new situation. What sort of influence does cooking or food have in your own life? Your family's life? What recipe from the book are you most eager to try?
- 9 Why do you think Jennifer and David decide to get goats even though neither of them have any prior experience raising farm animals? How did this decision change their marriage?
- 10 How does Jennifer come to terms with her own mistakes throughout the book? Do you think acknowledging these hard truths changed her character?
- 11 After reading about Jennifer's goat antics, what do you think would be the best part of goat raising? What part would be the most difficult for you?



April 2-16, 2018

- 12 Jennifer finds that eating food she has grown or raised herself is a more rewarding experience. Have you ever felt this way? Describe a time that you have used something that you have either raised or created with your own two hands. What was that like?
- 13 From dealing with mice, snakes, and even the stray possum, Jennifer realizes that uninvited wildlife is unavoidable when you're living close to the land. If you were in Jennifer's shoes, how would you react to these unwanted houseguests? Is there an animal that you would be unable to deal with?
- 14 Jennifer and David name all of their animals, including their chickens. How does this reflect on the relationship they have with their animals? How would you define the difference between farm animals and pets?
- 15 After reading *Flat Broke with Two Goats*, what do you think would be the most appealing aspect of living off the land? What would be the most unappealing?
- 16 Overall, do you think moving to the cabin was a good move for Jennifer and her family? Why or why not?