**Chapter by Chapter Summary**

**Part One: Love Like the Ocean**

*Present day is in italics,*memories are in normal font.

*Lisa hears crows telling her la’es - go down to the bottom of the ocean. Lisa awakes to find her parents in the kitchen. Her brother’s boat, Queen of the North, is lost at sea a six hour boat ride away. Lisa dreamt that she saw her brother at Monkey Beach.*

• Lisa remembers her father telling them, as children, stories about B‟gwus (sasquatch). Jimmy wanted to take a picture of b‟gwus because he saw a tabloid ad offering a reward for a picture of sasquatch. The goes to Monkey Beach. Lisa sees a sasquatch, Jimmy does not, she doesn’t tell him.

*Lisa reflects on her dream, knows it isn’t a death sending because they happen when you’re awake.*

• Lisa remembers a dead dog and the first time she saw him - a “little dark man with bright red hair,” before a tidal wave hit the village.

*Lisa smokes on the balcony with her father and wishes she could talk to him about spiritual matters.*

• Lisa remembers seeing the little man and telling her mother, but her mother said it was a nightmare.

• Mick returns from a long, unexplained absence. The children don’t recognize him, but everyone else is happy to see him.

• Little man is described in more detail. • Lisa remembers the tidal wave. • Lisa remembers her dad buying chickens and hawks attacking the chickens.

*Lisa’s parents leave,and Aunt Edith stays with Lisa at the house. Lisa remembers her brother telling her that he took the job on the Queen of the North “to make things right.”*

• Lisa remembers a childhood day on the beach with Tab, Erica, and Jimmy. They meet a new girl, Adelaine, who is very beautiful. Lisa ditches Jimmy and her mother tells her that someday she‟ll miss having him around all the time. Jimmy was a good swimmer but Lisa struggled to learn. When Jimmy got a bike Lisa injured herself learning how to ride before he did.

• Lisa remembers the first time Mick babysat her and Jimmy and how Mick told her about his time in AIM.

• Lisa remembers a funeral feast where Ma-ma-oo and Trudy didn‟t get along. Ma-ma-oo said that there was something wrong with Josh. Tab tells Lisa that Ma-ma-oo and Trudy

Monkey Beach Study Guide © Starleigh Grass 2010. Reproduce for educational purposes only.

8

Trudy and Ma-ma-oo don‟t get along because Ba-ba-oo was abusive and Ma-ma-oo chose to send Mick and

Trudy to residential school instead of kicking Ba-ba-oo out of the house.

 • Lisa remembers seeing Mick in an angry rage after Elvis died. Mick then went to Graceland without telling anyone where he was going and was gone for a month.

• Lisa remembers playing with Erica when the town bully Frank, along with Cheese and Pooch, tried to pick on them. Lisa and Frank fought, Lisa won, and both ended up in the ER.

• Lisa remembers Christmas tree hunting with her father and Mick. • Barry, Cookie‟s brother, comes to town, and the family discovers that Mick was marriedto Cookie.

• Lisa and Mick go q‟alh‟m picking with Mick and they bring some to Ma-ma-oo.

• Lisa and Ma-ma-oo make an offering to Ba-ba-oo on his birthdy. Lisa doesn‟t tel her mom. Ba-ba-oo was a vet who lost an arm but didn‟t get compensated through Veteran‟s Affairs because he was an Indian or through Indian Affairs because he was a veteran.

• Tab and Lisa smoke at the graveyard. *Phone call from Lisa’s parents. No news from Jimmy. Lisa goes into Jimmy’s room.*

• Lisa remembers going to fishing camp with Mick and seeing ghosts on the way. Mick tells Lisa about her parents‟ first almost-date. Mick finds a halibut in a crabtrap and Mick says it‟s a magic thing and lets it go. Mother, Geordie, and Edith meet them at a cabin. Lisa mentions ghosts. Mick asks Gladys if she‟s ever told Lisa about Ba-ba-oo, Gladys says no, they change the subject. Mick has a nightmare about Cookie. Mick, Gladys, and Lisa decided to go camping at a nearby lake. Gladys tells a story about Stone Man.

* When they return to camp Geordie and Edith have left for supplies. Mick goes jigging.

Lisa leave the cabin without permission and explores an abandoned village. When she comes back she sees Mick put his arms around Gladys‟ waist and kiss her neck. Gladys removes his arms from her waist. On the way home from the camp Gladys has a vision.

• Lisa further contemplates the gore of the chickens. • Lisa remembers Jimmy‟s crow Spotty. • Lisa remembers visiting Tab‟s and Aunt Trudy drunkenly telling her that Mick was a drunk back in the day and in love with Gladys. Lisa returns the next day and a hungover. Trudy tells her that Mick and Gladys dated but nothing happened because Mick mysteriously disappeared, and Gladys was upset but Albert comforted her, and they‟ve been together since.

• Little man appears, touches Lisa, trying to comfort her.

*Spotty tells Lisa la’sda. Her parents cal to say that the search party has found the empty life raft from Queen of the North. Lisa decided to take an 11 hour journey by speedboat to meet up with her parents. She leaves a note on the table for Aunt Edith.*

Monkey Beach Study Guide © Starleigh Grass 2010. Reproduce for educational purposes only.

**Part Two: The Song of Your Breath**

*9 Lisa is on the boat, passing a graveyard.*

• After Mick‟s funeral Josh gave Lisa two pictures of Mick and $100. Barry shares memories of Mick‟s AIM days with Lisa.

• Trudy gets evicted and Tab announced that they‟re moving to Vancouver.

• Lisa makes an offering to Mick. • Lisa, Ma-ma-oo, and Gladys can and smoke fish.

• Ma-ma-oo and Lisa pick oxasuli - “powerful medicine. Very dangerous. It can kill you, do you understand? You have to respect it.” Ma-ma-oo tells Lisa. Ma-ma-oo teaches Lisa how to ward off ghosts and Lisa tells Ma-ma-oo about the little man after Ma-ma-oo tells Lisa about cedar spirits that lead medicine men to the best cedars to make canoes out of. Ma-ma-oo tells Lisa that Lisa‟s maternal side of the family has a gift of being able t predict the future.

Ma-ma-oo tells Lisa that the man is an unreliable guide. “Never trust the spirit world too much. They think different than the living.” Ma-ma-oo tells Lisa that there‟s good medicine and bad, and it‟s “best not to deal with it at all if you don‟t know what you‟re doing.”

• Lisa goes back to school. Frank is at her school because he‟s been kicked out of all other schools for fighting. Frank chooses Lisa as a bullying target.

• Lisa sinks into a depression.

• Jimmy takes Lisa for a joyride in their parents‟ vehicle, then encourages Lisa to drive. When she does they get caught and she doesn‟t tell their parents that it was Jimmy‟sidea.

• Ma-ma-oo and Lisa go berry picking and Ma-ma-oo shares a story about her late sister, Mimayus, who fell in love with a man from far away and died in a storm travelling to visit him when she was young. • Description of a heart

*Lisa regrets not going with her parents. Drinks coffee while boating.*

• Lisa‟s grades drop. Jimmy keeps working towards his goal of qualifying for the Olympics as a swimmer.

• Franks leaves a dead frog in Lisa‟s desk. Lisa, angry that Frank killed a frog for a prank, fights Frank in the classroom.

• Lisa talks back to Erica, and Erica responds by pitting her friends against Lisa. In the heat of the moment Lisa reveals an embarrassing fact about Erica and makes her cry. Lisa becomes a social outcast.

• Lisa visits Ma-ma-oo. Lisa cuts her hair in mourning.

• Erica‟s friend threatens to fight Lisa after school, Lisa punches her out at lunch which

endears her to Frank. Frank, Pooch, Cheese, and Lisa begin a friendship.

• Contacting the dead lesson two. • Lisa invites the boys over for her birthday party, surprising her mother.

• Lisa communicates with Screwy Ruby, and Screwy Ruby tells Lisa that she‟s a bad girl.

• Further description of a heart. • Brief Haisla history lesson.

10

• Ma-ma-oo shares memories of Mick and Albert in their youth. • Cheese, Frank, and Pooch share their dreams for the future.

 • Tab returns and Lisa smokes marijuana with her for the first time. Tab says Cheese is a pervert. Tab hitch-hiked up from Vancouver without permission, and when Josh comes to drive her back she says she‟d rather hitch-hike back, then is strange when she gets in the truck with him.

• Ma-ma-oo tells a story of a woman who kills her husband with a paddle to be with his brother.

• Lisa and Albert go to Overwaite to buy a Christmas tree.

• Contacting the dead lesson three.

• Ma-ma-oo and Lisa pick kolu‟n.

• Lisa discovers that Pooch practices voodoo.

• Lisa tries a contacting the dead spell, then fears that she‟s accidentally put her brother at harm. She insists he be with her so that she can watch over him, and during this time he meets Adelaine.

• Alexis goes missing so Pooch, Cheese, Frank, and Lisa try to use the Ouija board to find her. It spells out JOSH BED, and when asked about Alexis spells out WORM MEAT.

• Frank sends Lisa an unsigned Valentines card which she ignores.

• Little man shocks Lisa awake.

• Ma-ma-oo survives a health scare.

• Pooch falls into a deep sleep after drinking a single can of beer.

• Frank and Julie become steady partners.

• Lisa‟s mom catches her smoking.

• Cheese asks Lisa out, telling her she can make Frank jealous, Lisa turns him down.

• Lisa goes to Terrace where she sees Erica being harassed by a car full of white guys. Lisa intervenes and a confrontation escalates till a bystander steps in. The abuse by the white guys is sexual and racist.

• Trudy, Josh, and Tab are visiting. Josh calls Lisa “little Mick.” Little man darted into Lisa‟s closet in the morning and wouldn‟t come out till she put her bathrobe on.

• Trudy tells Lisa to be more careful because priests in residential schools weren‟t punished for sexually abusing kids, and a car full of white guys wouldn‟t be punished for sexually assaulting her because society expects natives to be “born sluts.”

• Cheese spikes Lisa‟s beer at a party and sexually assaults her. Little man appears at Tab‟s house afterwards and Lisa is angry at him for not doing anything to stop the assault. Spirits in the woods offer to hurt „him‟ if Lisa brings them meat. Cheese tells Frank that Lisa had consensual intercourse with him, Frank goes to Lisa to confirm it, when she implicitly denies it he leaves.

• While sleeping on the beach with Ma-ma-oo Lisa hears footsteps. When she tells Ma- ma-oo, she is told not to be scared of things she doesn‟t understand.

• Lisa begins sleepwalking.

• Pooch tells Lisa that Frank beat up Cheese. • Lisa meets with a psychologist with a strange creature attached to her. • Lisa‟s grades continue to slip. • At a party, Adelaine resurfaces as Karaoke. • M-ma-oo survives a heart attack. •Ma-ma-oo begins seeing ghosts of old friends and family.

11

• Lisa leaves a party to be alone, hears footsteps but ignores them. Meanwhile, Ma-ma-oo dies in a house fire. Ma-ma-oo leaves Lisa over $200,000.

**Part Three: In Search of the Elusive Sasquatch**

• Modernization of Weegit. *Lisa stops at Monkey Beach, hears whispering and giggling.*

• Lisa remembers visiting Monkey Beach in 1998, “another banner year” [of partying]. Lisa partied through grade ten, gave up on grade eleven, and partied for a year in Vancouver.

• The interest from the money Ma-ma-oo gave her paid for her drugs and alcohol and bought her friends.

• Lisa a a vision where the ghost of Tab tells her that Tab was killed by booze hound rednecks, and that Lisa should “get her act together and go home.”

• Lisa dries out alone in a hotel room, then finds Aunt Trudy. Aunt Trudy says that Tab is alive. Josh takes Trudy and Lisa to a booze can where they run into Frank and Frank ignores Josh. Josh tells Lisa about Cookie‟s unnatural and suspicious death. Frank and Lisa briefly talk. A woman makes a joke about priests and sexual abuse. Karaoke asks Josh for money. Josh says she should be home, and offers to take her home. She leaves without him. Lisa finds Frank on her way out of the booze can and he gives her a ride. During the ride he tells her Pooch has committed suicide and that he and Karaoke are on their way up to the funeral. Frank offers Lisa a ride back in the morning and she accepts.

• On the way home Frank reveals to Lisa that he received a death sending from Pooch. Lisa changes the subject. Frank reveals that he always wanted to ask her out, but

thought she deserved better.

• While the others sleep Lisa takes a turn driving and sees b‟gwus, but doesn‟t tell the others.

*Lisa is at Monkey Beach and hears voices offering to help her.*

• Description of b`gwus. • At Pooch`s funeral Karaoke says they all know why he killed himself and beings saying

something about Josh before Frank cuts her off.

 • Lisa and Karaoke go to a party and see Cheese who calls Lisa a freak who can see ghosts.

 • Jimmy is at the party and he and Karaoke share a moment across the room.

• Jimmy and Lisa talk. Lisa discovers that Jimmy has given up swimming. Jimmy brings Lisa home to see her parents.

 • Erica, who has finished high school and had a baby, visits Lisa. Lisa tells Erica that she is going back to school with the goal of ensuring that she does not graduate after Jimmy does. Lisa gets caught up in studying. Jimmy dates many girls, but not Karaoke.

12

• Frank invites Lisa to Karaoke`s birthday party, Lisa invites Jimmy. At the party Karaoke tells Lisa that Josh thinks Lisa is special because she reminds him of Mickl Karaoke says she`s going to kick his ass one of these days. Jimmy and Karaoke finally make a connection. Lisa has a dream of Ma-ma-oo and a logging road in which Ma-ma-oo tells her to find mimayus. Lisa uses the information to find Jimmy and Karaoke after they have been missing long enough for others to worry.

*The voices at Monkey Beach tell Lisa that they can help her if she gives them meat.*

• Tsonoqua, another mythical figure, is described.

 • Karaoke leaves Kitimaat without explanation. Jimmy responds in anger then parties.

Lisa takes him to Monkey Beach to dry out. Lisa and Jimmy have a heart to heart.

 • Jimmy finds a new dream - opening a crow research center.

• Lisa dreams of Ma-ma-oo`s reaction to Ba-ba-oo`s death.

• Lisa sleepwalks, and Jimmy finds her after Spotty wakes him up.

• Karaoke returns and Jimmy and her return to their romance. • Jimmy reveals to his family his plan to give Karaoke a promise ring. Jimmy begins to budget for a wedding.

*The voices in the tress offer to help Lisa. She responds that she has no meat but makes an offering of her own blood.*

• Jimmy decides to take a job on a fishing boat with Josh. Lisa tells Karaoke and Karaoke is surprised. Jimmy leaves for the fishing trip and tells Lisa to tell Karaoke that he loves her. Karaoke responds to the news that Jimmy has left by punching another girl out.

• Lisa decides to show Karaoke the ring, and finds a picture in Jimmy`s belongings which explains Josh`s experiences at residential school, Karaoke`s hate for Josh, and the reason for Karaoke`s abrupt and mysterious trip to Vancouver.

*After her blood offering Lisa hears something slither.*

Monkey Beach Study Guide © Starleigh Grass 2010. Reproduce for educational purposes only.

**Part Four: The Land of the Dead**

13• *Lisa dreams of herself, Mick, and Ba-ba-oo hunting for Christmas trees.*

• *Lisa awakes to the voices asking for more blood, she demands to know where Jimmy is first.*

• *Lisa learns that Jimmy sunk Josh`s boat and killed Josh, then set out to swim to shore.*

• *Lisa tells the voices that`s not what she wanted to know. They demand more blood. Lisa makes her way to the speedboat but it hits her on the head before she can get on.*

• *Ma-ma-oo tells Lisa ``You have a dangerous gift, it`s like okxasuli. Unless you know how to use it, it will kill you.``*

• *Ma-ma-oo tells Lisa to go back. Lisa asks about Jimmy and Ma-ma-oo doesn`t give her*

*any information.*• *Lisa manages to take a breath before going underwater again.*

• *A vision of Jimmy lifts her to the surface and fades.*• *Lisa hears singing and sees a bonfire on the shore. Lisa struggles to reach the shore.Ma-ma-oo and Mick encourage her as she struggles towards the shore.*• *The figures on the shore sing in Haisla, and sing a song that Ma-ma-oo shared with Lisa,which was written by Lisa`s great grandfather when his wife died, and which Ma-ma-oo sang for Mick.*

• *Lisa sees a pale after image of Jimmy telling Lisa to ``tell her.``*•

 *Lisa lies on the beach, hears a b`gwus, hears a speedboat.*

Monkey Beach Study Guide © Starleigh Grass 2010. Reproduce for educational purposes only.