Name:

***The Rock and the River* Reading Check**

**“Chapter 3 and Chapter 4”**

**Directions:** Please answer all of the following questions in ***complete sentences*.** You can and should ***use your book***. No one is testing your memory! We are working on comprehension, and good readers reread to make sure they comprehend.

1. How does Sam see himself? Find evidence to support your answer. (Stuck? Try reading these pages: 42-45, 48)
2. When Sam walks Maxie home, she won’t let him walk her all the way to the door. Instead, “[i]n front of her building she stopped altogether” and she was “staring at her toes” (53). What is going on here? Why won’t Maxie let Sam walk all the way up to the door with her?
3. At the end of the chapter, Sam sees a man in a leather jacket and combat boots give Stick something in a box. When Sam asks to see the box, Stick becomes secretive. What do you think is in the box and why? What is Stick’s secret?

OVER

1. In this chapter we find out Stick has joined The Black Panthers. What might have motivated him to join this group? (Bonus: Why do you think Sam has NOT been motivated to join this group?)
2. Remember that on page 61, we find out that Bucky has a job working in an auto shop, so his family got their apartment back. Is this situation justice? Why or why not? (Consider how old Bucky is before you answer.)
3. Explain why what the police did to Bucky was an extreme injustice.
4. What is Sam’s motivation for standing by and watching rather than jumping in to try and stop the police? (In other words, why doesn’t Sam do anything to try to stop the police?)
5. When Sam is telling his father about what happened to Bucky, he says that there were plenty of people there who saw what happened. However, no one has come forward as a witness. When Roland asks why no one said anything, Leon replies, “You know perfectly well why not” (73). What is Leon talking about? Why didn’t any witnesses come forward?