

## La Petit Fadette: Chapitres XII

This chapter refers to "le follet" or "the will-o'-the-wisp." Since there is a strong possibility that you have never heard of this, here is an explanation:

**will-o'-the-wisp :** According to [www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/will-o'-the-wisp](http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/will-o'-the-wisp)

### "The Mystical Origins of will-o'-the-wisp

The will-o'-the-wisp is a flame-like phosphorescence caused by gases from decaying plants in marshy areas. In olden days, it was personified as "Will with the wisp," a sprite who carried a fleeting "wisp" of light. Foolish travelers were said to try to follow the light and were then led astray into the marsh. (An 18th-century fairy tale described Will as one "who bears the wispy fire to trail the swains among the mire.") The light was first known, and still also is, as ignis fatuus, which in Latin means "foolish fire." Eventually, the name will-o'-the-wisp was extended to any impractical or unattainable goal."

### Vocabulaire :

follet (m) – the will-o'-the-wisp

grelotter – to shiver

heurter – collide with, crash into

gosier (m) – la gorge (familier) (throat)

noyer – to drown

poltron – coward

caillou (m) – stone, pebble

maître (m) – elementary school teacher

**Répondez aux questions suivantes en français. Justifiez les réponses avec les citations de l'histoire.**

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1. Pourquoi est-ce que Landry a du mal à trouver la bonne direction pour traverser la rivière ?
2. Traduisez : He had heard it said that there is nothing more abusive and meaner than that fire.

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3. Qu'est-ce que Landry faisait quand il a entendu la chanson de Fadette?
4. Est-ce que Fadette remarqua Landry par terre ?

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5. À ce moment, quelle impression Fadette a-t-elle de Landry ?
6. À ce moment, quelle impression Landry a-t-il de Fadette ?