

Silas Marner

George Eliot

Why does Eppie reject the 'strongest of all claims' that Godfrey thinks biology gives him?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	Eppie chooses the father who raised her
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FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION	Godfrey's claim
START	But I can't leave my father, nor own anybody nearer than him.
END	I've a natural claim on her that must stand before every other.
PASSAGE ID	sec-sm-03

THE MOVE

Distinguish biological claim from lived relationship

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Godfrey treats biological fatherhood as the strongest claim, but Eppie measures fatherhood by years of care, loyalty, and shared life. The scene sets legal or natural entitlement against lived relationship.

MARK

Underline Godfrey's language of natural or biological claim. Circle Eppie's references to the father who raised her. Star the detail that most clearly defines fatherhood through action rather than blood.

NOTICE

- What does Godfrey believe biology entitles him to?
- What evidence does Eppie use to define who her father is?

- Why can a lived relationship outweigh a biological claim in her judgment?

THINK

Answer provisionally: Why does Eppie reject the 'strongest of all claims' that Godfrey thinks biology gives him? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: Why does Eppie reject the 'strongest of all claims' that Godfrey thinks biology gives him? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	Eppie rejects biology as the strongest claim because fatherhood, to her, is made by years of care, loyalty, shared hardship, and love. Godfrey's natural claim arrives after the lived relationship already exists.
EVIDENCE	Use Godfrey's language of natural or paternal claim and Eppie's reasons for remaining with Silas.
WATCH FOR	Do not say biology has no meaning at all. The scene asks which claim should carry greater moral weight.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

STUDENT PAGE · SAME PASSAGE, SAME THINKING

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Why does Eppie reject the 'strongest of all claims' that Godfrey thinks biology gives him?

START ANCHOR	But I can't leave my father, nor own anybody nearer than him.
END ANCHOR	I've a natural claim on her that must stand before every other.

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Underline Godfrey's language of natural or biological claim. Circle Eppie's references to the father who raised her. Star the detail that most clearly defines fatherhood through action rather than blood.
2. NOTICE - What does Godfrey believe biology entitles him to? What evidence does Eppie use to define who her father is? Why can a lived relationship outweigh a biological claim in her judgment?
3. THINK - Answer provisionally: Why does Eppie reject the 'strongest of all claims' that Godfrey thinks biology gives him?
4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.