Word substitutions for Gathering Blue, pages 1-74

Chapter 1
Pg 1 spirit – her mother’s soul
Pg 1 leave-taking – going away
Pg 1 Diggers – people who dig holes in the ground to bury the dead
Pg 2 sprinkle – put, spread
Pg 2 soil – dirt, earth
Pg 2 flesh - skin
Pg 2 wedged – stuck
Pg 2 rituals – customs, routines
Pg 2 vast foul-smelling – large stinky
Pg 2 Field of Leaving – where dead people are laid before they are buried
Pg 2 wisps – tiny, almost invisible amount
Pg 3 cindered fragments – burned bits
Pg 3 whirl – float in circles
Pg 3 shudder – shiver or feeling
Pg 3 beasts – large, scary animals
Pg 3 propelled – moved her forward
Pg 3 summer-start – spring
Pg 3 supple – bendable
Pg 3 abundant – plentiful
Pg 4 his own woman – his wife
Pg 4 short-tempered – easily angered
Pg 4 tykes – small children
Pg 4 tend – take care of
Pg 5 shuddered – shivered (in fear)
Pg 5 orphan – a child without parents
Pg 6 gripped – held onto
Pg 6 firm – strong, not willing to give in
Pg 6 burden – difficulty, problem
Pg 7 crippled – deformed, twisted
Pg 7 sturdy/reliable – strong/dependable
Pg 7 shed – barn, building
Pg 7 say so – agree
Pg 7 threading – embroidery, needle-work
Pg 7 flattery – saying nice things about you
Pg 7 tidy – clean
Pg 7 leavings – leftover pieces of thread
Pg 7 diminished – lessened, weakened
Pg 7 laborer – worker
Pg 7 mate – wife
Pg 7 fanciful/amuse – creative/entertain
Pg 8 diversions – side jobs, extras
Pg 8 lingered – stayed
Pg 8 skins – animal skins (used as rugs/blankets)
Pg 8 limped – walked unevenly
Pg 8 clearing – open area of land
Pg 8 scampering about – running around
Pg 8 Tussling – gentle wrestling, pretend fighting
Pg 8 flailing – waving around
Pg 9 sidelines – side (away from the other kids)
Pg 9 envy – jealousy, wanting to join them
Pg 9 clearing underbrush – cutting weeds
Pg 9 twigs/bundles – sticks/packages
Pg 9 swampy/Fen – wet/place called Fen
Pg 10 looked down upon – disliked
Pg 10 squinted/ruefully – closed his eyes almost shut/sadly
Pg 10 horrid burnt – badly (horribly) burned
Pg 10 smearing – spreading
Pg 10 structures – buildings
Pg 11 well – deep hole in the ground for water
Pg 11 cadence of bickering – sound of arguing
they were even there – they were equal in that respect (both had worshipped the object)

heavy-set – fat, overweight, large

volumes – books

yearned – wanted

inclined – bowed, tilted, bent

disspassionately – without emotion

unflawed – without mistakes or errors

hideous – ugly

flaw – mistake, deformity

illustrious – proud

tolerated – allowed, but not happily

tend the domestic beasts – take care of the animals they raise (like pigs, cows, chickens)

oozed – leaked (like dripping blood)

case – argument

swayed/flattery – persuaded/kind words

impassive – not showing any emotion

cripple – person with physical challenges

assess – evaluate, consider their worth

hostility – hatred

agonized – struggled with her decision

sureness – certainty

relinquish – give up, hand over

Chapter 4, pages 35-51

singled out – selected, chosen

elite – upper class, rich

thong – leather string

meticulously – very carefully

rage-laden – anger-filled

awe – wonder, surprise

volume/bound – book/held together

stricken – struck, slapped

passage – part of the text, paragraph

amendments – changes (to a document)

assertion – confident statement

acustomed to – used to

contempt – hatred

taunted – teased in a hurtful way

hold her head high – remain strong

taken by beasts – killed by wild animals

audible – able to be heard, spoken aloud

unbidden – unasked, not thought of

concede – agree with

vain – too proud of herself

submit to – give in to, endure

humiliating – embarrassing, shameful

stakes – the things she was fighting for

contemptuous – belittling, disrespectful

seared – continued sharply

competent – good, of good quality

refutes – disagrees with, negates

stony-faced – emotionless, like a stone

charges – complaints (against Kira)

shrill/vindictive – very high/angry, hateful

ravenous – huge, gigantic (but only when referring to hunger)

outrage – angry disbelief

menaced – bullied, fought

vied for dropped scraps – fought for bits of food accidentally dropped on the ground

with feigned nonchalance – pretending she didn’t care (feigned = pretend, fake; nonchalance = not caring)

oleander – a poisonous plant

till he et it – until he ate it

scamper off – run away

reiterated – repeated
Pg 63  governed – ruled
Pg 63  resonating – ringing, sounding
Pg 63  iridescent – sparkly
Pg 63  waddle – move slowly
Pg 64  lumpy oblong – bumpy oval shape
Pg 64  grumpy and unkempt – dirty
Pg 64  haphazardly – randomly
Pg 64  iffen – if
Pg 65  sucker/ filched – lollipop/stole
Pg 65  mammoth buggie – large bug
Pg 65  appointed/overseer – assigned/guardian
Pg 65  twinge/ irritation – small feeling/ anger
Pg 66  wing – section, part
Pg 66  inquired – asked
Pg 66  apologetically – expressing sorrow
Pg 67  corridor – hallway
Pg 67  grandeur – glamour, richness
Pg 67  solemnly/ gaze – seriously/look
Pg 68  wee buggies – little bugs
Pg 68  pallets – boards
Pg 68  utensils – useful tools
Pg 68  mourned – was sad about
Pg 69  consigned – limited
Pg 69  glimpse – quick look
Pg 70  don’t be captive – aren’t imprisoned
Pg 70  captive – prisoner
Pg 70  Familiarize – become familiar, get to know
Pg 70  retreat/ jauntily – go back/happily
Pg 71  flooding – filling
Pg 71  globe – ball (the moon, in this case)
Pg 71  bundled – tied together
Pg 72  herbs – plants used for medicine
Pg 72  tubers – root plants
Pg 72  nibbling – eating
Pg 72  greens – plants (like spinach, kale, chard)
Pg 72  glazed earthen – fine pottery
Pg 73  pendant – necklace ornament
Pg 73  thong – string made of leather
Pg 73  studded with – with little bumps of
Pg 73  talisman – a charm to prevent evil
Pg 74  blossoms – flowers
Pg 74  inert – motionless, dead
Pg 74  fluttered – moved slightly
Pg 74  tremble – shiver, shake
Pg 74  limp – relaxed, without structure
Chapter 7, pages 75-84

Pg 75  gleaming — shining
Pg 75  hoisted — lifted
Pg 76  Mystified — confused
Pg 76  tub — large bowl (like a bathtub)
Pg 76  rim — upper edge
Pg 76  unsanitary — not clean
Pg 76  waste — her poop
Pg 77  strewn — thrown
Pg 77  bother — inconvenience
Pg 79  felled — cut down, toppled over
Pg 79  intricately — finely, in detail
Pg 79  shavings — thin curls of wood
Pg 80  disconcerted — confused
Pg 80  hollow — empty on the inside
Pg 80  quarters — living area
Pg 81  resume — begin again
Pg 81  lavishly — richly, ornately
Pg 81  deft — competent, skilled
Pg 81  inadequate — lacking (in skill)
Pg 83  intact — all together, unchanged
Pg 83  unadorned — not embroidered, plain
Pg 83  adequate — sufficient, enough
Pg 83  sparse — limited, small
Pg 83  dyed — colored
Pg 83  hues — colors
Pg 84  vain — big-headed, egotistical
Pg 84  urgency — rush
Pg 84  cord — thick string
Pg 85  plead — beg, ask
Pg 86  passed for — looked like
Pg 86  scrawny — thin, weak
Pg 86  wee — small, weak
Pg 86  iffen — if
Pg 87  Filched this crustie — stole this bread
Pg 87  rustling — noises of movement
Pg 87  rodent — rat, mouse
Pg 87  mischievous — looking for trouble, sneaky
Pg 87  pounced — jumped on
Pg 87  daddy longlegs — spider (a type of)
Pg 88  Nah — no
Pg 88  Dunno — don’t know (I don’t know)
Pg 88  gots no pa — have no father
Pg 88  scart — scared
Pg 88  temperament/merry — personality/happy
Pg 88  shift — dress
Pg 89  buttie — butt
Pg 89  accustomed to — used to
Pg 89  crone — old woman (Annabella)
Pg 90  gnarled — bumpy, twisted
Pg 90  liken — look like
Pg 90  brung/crustie — bought/bread
Pg 90  gestured — motioned with her hand
Pg 91  strands — strings (of yarn)
Pg 91  untouched expanse — unembroidered area
Pg 91  Bedstraw/Madder — plant names
Pg 91  massed with/blossoms — full of/flowers
Pg 91  raised bed — small flower garden (bed) that is built above the ground (raised)
Pg 91  Tis/dormant — It is/not blooming
Pg 92  shoots — stems
Pg 92  lessen — unless
Pg 92  transplant — move
Pg 92  rounded — turned around
Pg 93  nought — nothing
Pg 93  piped — was heard
Pg 93  crevice — crack
Pg 93  gnawed — ate

Chapter 8, pages 86-96

Pg 86  flexed — tightened
Word substitutions for Gathering Blue, pages 111-154

Chapter 10, pages 111-118

Pg 111 bragging – boasting
Pg 111 envied – wanted to be one of
Pg 111 jostled – pushed around
Pg 111 flaunting and boasting – being proud
Pg 112 swagger – proud walk
Pg 112 trophy – prize
Pg 112 prod/wrenched/grasp – poker/turned/grip
Pg 112 brutish – mean
Pg 112 coarse quarreling – rough fighting
Pg 112 stub – little bit
Pg 112 prancing – dancing around
Pg 112 scolding – angry
Pg 113 Exasperated – tired and frustrated
Pg 113 pelt – skin of an animal
Pg 113 plastering – smearing, rubbing
Pg 114 admirers dispersed – friends left
Pg 114 perch – spot (on Thomas’ shoulders)
Pg 114 wails/whimpers – cries
Pg 114 subdued – quieted
Pg 114 nibbled/scrapes – ate/bits of food
Pg 114 warily/grimaced – cautiously/frowned
Pg 115 fierce/smugly – strong, brave/with pride
Pg 115 gimme – give (to) me
Pg 116 figure – person (Matt)
Pg 116 deserted plaza – empty place
Pg 116 stirred – moved
Pg 117 interwove – wove in and out
Pg 117 tense/tremble – be tight/shake
Pg 118 soothing – comforting

Pg 118 rose – stood up
Pg 118 naughty – misbehaving

Chapter 11, pages 19-127

Pg 119 trembling – shaking
Pg 120 aura – feeling in the air
Pg 120 willed – forced
Pg 120 subsided – go away
Pg 120 chuckled – laughed
Pg 120 nod – up and down motion
Pg 120 indicated – pointed to
Pg 120 simmer – just begin to bubble
Pg 121 kettle – a heavy pot
Pg 121 steeping – soaking up water
Pg 121 Extracting – getting
Pg 121 sultry/oppressive – humid/difficult
Pg 121 rafters – boards (of wood)
Pg 121 mugs – coffee cups
Pg 121 goldenrod shoots – flower stems
Pg 122 ominous stalking sound – frightening sound of something following her
Pg 122 stalks – follows
Pg 122 disdainfully – badly
Pg 122 ignorant – dumb or uninformed
Pg 123 bravado – bravery
Pg 123 yarrow, tansy, madder – names of plants
Pg 123 pale lavender – light purple
Pg 123 Elderberry – a plant
Pg 123 stay fast/linger – keep its color/stay
Pg 123 scared (afraid)
Pg 124 wrinkled – scrunched up
Pg 124 hare – rabbit
Pg 125 confided – shared (as in a secret)
Pg 126 skeptically – not believing
Pg 145  *groggy* – sleepy, in confusion
Pg 145  *fitful* – difficult, un-restful
Pg 145  *relishing/lingered* – loving/stayed
Pg 145  *misery/subside* – difficulty/go away
Pg 146  *detoured* – went a different way
Pg 146  *scowled/outrage* – frowned at/dishonest
Pg 146  *treadle* – part of the weaving loom
Pg 146  *chat/gossip* – talk/talk about other people
Pg 146  *grinning* – smiling
Pg 146  *drew back* – withdrew, moved back
Pg 146  *peering/glimpse* – looking/look
Pg 147  *tooken off* – taken away
Pg 147  *Furtively/confided* – secretly/told her
Pg 147  *knowledges* – wisdom, information
Pg 147  *solemnly* – seriously
Pg 147  *lizzie* – lizard
Pg 148  *slithered* – climbed
Pg 148  *hind/churned* – back/pawed
Pg 148  *moist/stiletto* – wet/long and skinny
Pg 148  *tooken* – took
Pg 148  *sipped* – drank
Pg 148  *flung* – threw
Pg 148  *outstretched* – spread out
Pg 148  *nosed* – pushed his nose
Pg 148  *held the pose* – stayed still
Pg 149  *grotesque* – ugly
Pg 149  *wing* – part of the house (or Edifice)
Pg 149  *chamber* – room
Pg 150  *His face fell* – he looked sad (as in, “the smile fell from his face)
Pg 150  *ignorance* – lack of knowledge
Pg 151  *inappropriate* – wrong
Pg 151  *gruff* – harsh
Pg 152  *solitary* – alone
Pg 153  *rustling* – movement
Pg 153  *muffled* – muted, quiet
Pg 153  *whimper* – soft crying
Pg 153  *shuddering sobbs* – shaking cries
Pg 153  *enclosure/site* – closed in area/place
Pg 153  *penned* – kept in
Pg 153  *isolated* – alone
Pg 153  *foliage* – leaves (plant and tree greenery)
Pg 154  *sniffled* – took a quick breath in through her nose because of her crying
Pg 154  *Hush* – be quiet
Pg 154  *Clutching* – holding, grabbing
Pg 154  *rounded* – walked around, came around
Pg 154  *wary* – cautious, not trusting
Word substitutions for *Gathering Blue*, pages 155-193

**Chapter 15, pages 155-1163**

Pg 156 shallow pit – not very deep hole
Pg 156 support/kettles – pole/pots for cooking
Pg 156 bundles – packages
Pg 156 beams – wood poles across the ceiling
Pg 156 ignorance – not knowing
Pg 156 chuckled – laughed
Pg 156 grimaced/disgust – frowned/dislike
Pg 156 pisspot – a pot to hold urine (pee)
Pg 156 vital – important
Pg 156 bearing – carrying, bringing
Pg 157 napping – having a short daytime rest
Pg 157 tasks – jobs
Pg 157 mourn – grieve, feel sad
Pg 158 Reluctantly – Not wanting to
Pg 159 captive – prisoner
Pg 159 harsh – mean
Pg 159 stern – strict (almost the same as harsh)
Pg 159 sobbing – crying hard, crying a lot
Pg 160 orphaned – without parents
Pg 161 cautiously – carefully
Pg 162 dubious - doubtful
Pg 162 severity – anger, strong talk
Pg 162 slamming – throwing (the door closed)
Pg 162 creep – slowly walk, tiptoe quietly
Pg 163 fingering – touching, holding
Pg 163 roam – wander, walk around
Pg 163 mischievous – one to cause trouble
Pg 164 squalor – filth, dirt
Pg 164 chaotic din – random noises
Pg 164 gesture – motion
Pg 164 clotted filth – pilled up dirt
Pg 164 sign – traces
Pg 165 clamor/subsided – noise/ended
Pg 165 dimly lit – poorly lighted
Pg 165 torches – lights with flames
Pg 165 Deftly – with skill
Pg 165 base – bottom
Pg 165 muted – quieted
Pg 166 illuminated – lighted
Pg 166 tangled – messed up, in knots
Pg 166 wailed – cried
Pg 166 marveled – was in awe, was surprised
Pg 166 waif of a thing – small thin person
Pg 166 cradled her – held her in her (Kira’s) arms
Pg 167 soothed – calmed
Pg 167 suspiciously/clutched – not trusting/held
Pg 167 scowled – frowned
Pg 168 grinned – smiled
Pg 169 triumphantly – proudly
Pg 169 thumped – hit, banged
Pg 169 tucked – folded
Pg 170 intuitively – naturally
Pg 170 contented – happy, satisfied
Pg 170 conclusion – decision, understanding
Pg 171 yearned – longed, desired
Pg 172 despite its – even though it had its

**Chapter 16, pages 164-172**

Pg 173 infinitesimally – very, very, very
Pg 174 unadorned expanse – plain area
Pg 174 good-naturedly – happily
bickering – arguing, fighting

fragrance – pleasant smell

assuaged – calmed

concentrated on – thought about

sought – looked for

reassurance/solace – comfort/peace

phrases – words

crept – (past tense of creep), snuck

thump/iffen – bang/if

Want I should – do you want me to

pleating/cuffs – creases/sleeve ends

portrayal – picture

toppling – galling over

fiery – fire

hum – sing without opening your mouth

recurrent – repeating

chant – sing

captive – imprisoned

interminable – unending, super long

emphasize – concentrate on, stress

charmed – helped

tragic . . . greens – mixture of ruined cities and pleasant green meadows (on the robe)

dismayed – unhappy

solemn – serious

elaborate – complicated, detailed

quivered – shook, trembled

distressing – upsetting, sad

reassuring – comforting

capably redone – skillfully fixed

restoration – fixing

gestured – pointed, motioned

unadorned expanse – plain area

conceal – hide

referred to – talked about

enormous – huge, big, large

firmly – solidly, seriously

dared her to refuse – challenged her to deny him
Word substitutions for *Gathering Blue*, pages 194-end

**Chapter 19, pages 194-202**

- **Pg 194** subdued – quiet, not excited
- **Pg 194** unruly – wild, not disciplined
- **Pg 194** clung – held onto
- **Pg 194** jostling – pushing people around
- **Pg 194** tread of feet – footsteps
- **Pg 194** throng – crowd
- **Pg 194** clutching – holding onto
- **Pg 195** scattered – here and there
- **Pg 195** scampering unsupervised – running around without anyone watching them
- **Pg 195** hubbies – husbands
- **Pg 195** solemn – serious
- **Pg 195** weary – tired
- **Pg 195** diminished – less
- **Pg 195** relish the prospect – like the idea
- **Pg 196** gaunt – thin
- **Pg 196** suspiciously – with caution
- **Pg 196** squalor – filth, dirt
- **Pg 196** sea of faces – all of the faces
- **Pg 196** stragglers – latecomers (people who are late)
- **Pg 196** surge – swell
- **Pg 196** shuffling – moving slowly
- **Pg 196** beckoned – asked him to come
- **Pg 197** peek – look
- **Pg 197** cracked-open – barely open
- **Pg 197** circumstances – situation
- **Pg 197** cavernous – large (like a cave)
- **Pg 197** flush – turn red
- **Pg 197** singled out – noticed
- **Pg 197** derisive – mean
- **Pg 198** Gazing – looking at
- **Pg 198** endured – gotten through, lived through
- **Pg 198** peer/spectators’ – look/watchers, people
- **Pg 198** glimpse – quick look
- **Pg 198** attentive – paying attention, listening
- **Pg 198** restrained her – held her back
- **Pg 198** wriggled – moved around
- **Pg 198** shifting – moving, changing position
- **Pg 198** ritual – same actions
- **Pg 199** applaud – clap
- **Pg 199** hush – quiet
- **Pg 199** uncertain – somewhat confused
- **Pg 199** intuitively – instinctively, without knowing how she knew
- **Pg 199** proper – right, correct
- **Pg 199** acknowledged – noticed, looked at
- **Pg 199** unoccupied – empty
- **Pg 200** beckoned – motioned to Jo with her hands
- **Pg 200** grinned – smiled
- **Pg 200** hesitant – unsure
- **Pg 200** infectious – catching (it made everyone else smile, too)
- **Pg 200** waggled – moved, waved
- **Pg 200** ripple – tiny wave
- **Pg 200** hoisted – lifted
- **Pg 200** wovie/confided – wave/whispered
- **Pg 200** gasped collectively – sucked in their breath all together
- **Pg 201** ancient – very old
- **Pg 201** glistened/torchlight – shone/firelight
- **Pg 201** glowed in their subtlety – looked beautiful in a quiet way
- **Pg 201** mount – climb
I brung you a giftie – I brought you a gift
The big be coming still. But I gots the little here in my pockie – The big (gift) is still to come. But I have the little (gift) here in my pocket.
grasshopper – an insect
consumed/cringe – ate/frown
plunged – put
triumphantly – in victory
plucked – picked
suffusing – all over
hushed with awe – quiet with disbelief
beamed – looked very proud
makened – made
recollect – remember
There be nought fearful in the woods – There is nothing to be afraid of in the woods
et – ate
took – took
boasting – with pride
tale – story
yearned so for – so very much wanted
grasp - hands
dignity – pride
nudged – bumped, moved
expression of ignorance – look of not knowing
Dunno – I don’t know
Puzzled – confused
aye? – right?
On tiptoe – standing on the tips of his toes (to make him taller)
passionately – with emotion
iffen – if
summoned – called
ushered – brought
formality – special attention
foot of the stage – the edge of the stage closest to the audience
audience applauded – people clapped
in acknowledgement of his remarkable – because of his wonderful
gazing – looking
populace – people
imitating – copying
mounted – climbed
fingered – touched
swayed – moved back and forth
glimpsed – briefly saw

Chapter 21, pages 213-221
exhilarating – exciting, wonderful
triumph – victory
in chorus – along with
conclusion – ending
beckoned – motioned
wriggled/dozed – moved around/slept
eagerness – happiness
summoning - calling
scrambled down – climbed down, got off
beamed – smiled
released from . . . – no longer serious
dread – not wanting something to happen
sorrow – sadness
laboriously – with difficulty
curiously – with wonder, with questions
slumped wearily – bent over and tired
categorize – understand
presence – being there
indicating – pointing at
acknowledgement – agreement
appointed – assigned, elected
post – job
hostility – anger
Harsh – mean
recall – remember
but for – except for
defied – refused (to do what they asked)
going on – continue talking
for certain – for sure
bitterly envious – extremely jealous (see “jealousies”, page 223)
stalking – following
club – large piece of wood
stunned/dazed – almost unconscious, couldn’t see well, couldn’t think
left me for dead – walked away, thinking I was dead
dazed – not thinking clearly
lied – melody, sound
cadence – rhythm
soothing – calming
dulled – lessened
carrying litter – stretcher, bed
delirious – out of my mind
aid a grievously wounded being – help a seriously injured person
nursed – brought (by giving him medical care)
blurred – unclear
astounding – surprising, shocking
journeys – travels
unconsciously – without thinking
cherished – loved, wanted, cared for
pendant – necklace
wept – cried
willed – made
stained – marked
sobbed – cried
embrace – hug
shield – covering
pained – hurt
blows/intended – hits/meant
Startled/lullaby – surprised/baby’s song
expression lightening – face smiling
exhausted – very tired
all that way – so far
slip away – go away secretly
indicating – showing him
readied – made ready, prepared
gashed – cut
suspected – thought, wondered
proof of her guilt – evidence that she did anything wrong
turned on you – became against you
trial – a legal court proceeding
honored – special
squeezed – held tightly to
The hand that she held … - her father took his hand away from hers.

Chapter 23, pages 234-241
dim pre-dawn – darkness before sunrise
woad – a type of plant
soaked/soil/fragile – watered/dirt/delicate
faint pink stain … – light pink color coming up over the horizon
sudden violent, isolated illness – unexpected severe sickness that only affected her mother
Gathering Blue Characters

Kira
Kira is the main character. She is born with a bad leg and therefore cannot walk without a cane. Her mother, Katrina, always protected her, but now Katrina is dead and the townswomen no longer want Kira in their village.

Matt and Branch
Matt is a small boy who becomes Kira’s loyal friend. Branch is his dog, whom he calls Branchie.

Vandara
Vandara is a mean woman who wants Kira gone. She takes Kira to court to ask them to remove Kira from the village.

Jamison
He is the man who successfully defends Kira in court. He then gives Kira a place to live while she works on the Singer’s robe.