

Name: _____ Date: _____

Close-Reading Questions

The Girl Who Dared

1. How does the author use Scene 1 to capture your attention? (author's craft)

2. How does the trip to New York City affect the kids' views on segregation? (inference)

3. What can you conclude about Barbara's character from her words and actions in Scene 4? (character)

4. In Scene 5, as the kids sit at the lunch counter for the first time, "the room falls silent." Why? (inference)

5. Near the end of Scene 6, the lights fade and then come back up as robins chirp. Why? (text structure)

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Close-Reading Questions

"My America"

1. Why does Barbara describe segregation and discrimination as "a cancer"? (figurative language)

2. In the last line, Barbara says that the youth of America will carry out their "plans for a democratic America." Explain what she means. (interpreting text)

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Critical-Thinking Questions

The Girl Who Dared and "My America"

1. The Youth Council takes a nonviolent approach. Why?
2. The play is accompanied by an excerpt from Barbara's speech, not the entire speech. Why do you think the editors of *Scope* chose to print only part of the speech, and how do you think they decided which part to print?
3. Today segregation is illegal in the U.S. But racial prejudice and discrimination still exist. What can young people today do to help put an end to them?