

Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes by Chris Crutcher

Chapters 9-12

Name: _____

READING COMPREHENSION

BRIEFLY answer the questions for each chapter on a separate piece of paper. Keep this short.

Chapter 9

1. What significant event occurs at the start of this chapter?
2. Why does Sarah claim she is behaving this way?
3. Why is Sarah always so “tough” or “funny”?
4. What REALLY happened to Sarah?
5. What happened to Sarah’s mom?
6. Why did Sarah need to escape to the hospital?
7. What important news does Jody share with Eric? Why does she tell him?
8. Why is Brittain such a hypocrite?

Chapter 10

1. What is the conversation between Eric and Lemry? What is Lemry’s advice?
2. What does Brittain say to Eric before the 3rd period bell is going to ring?
3. What does Brittain say about Jody? Why is he saying this about her?
4. How does Eric’s mom react to him going out with Jody? What does she say?
5. What does Carver say dating Jody? What does he reveal about dating Eric’s mom? What does Eric think about Carver after this?
6. Where does Eric go to think? Where do you go to think?
7. What happens with Sarah Byrnes in this chapter? How does Eric react?

Chapter 11

1. What does Sarah reveal in the notebook?
2. How has she changed her mind about things? What/who changed her mind?
3. What kind of dreams has Sarah had?
4. Why does Sarah feel so strongly about Jody’s relationship with Eric and the fact that Jody had an abortion?
5. Why was Sarah always friends with Eric?
6. Why did Eric try to stay fat for her?
7. Why does Eric go to Lemry? How does she react?
8. Who is the only person who can help them?

Chapter 12

1. What do we find out from Dale about Sarah’s mom?
2. What does Mautz want with Eric? What is Mautz trying to do?
3. What does Eric do to Brittain at practice? What does Lemry say?
4. What does Lemry want to do with the Sarah situation? How does Sarah respond when Eric asks her?
5. Is Eric a good friend? Why or why not?
6. What does Eric want in the end of the chapter? Why do you think he wants this?

THEME I

Throughout this chapter, characters begin to reveal their deepest secrets. Sarah Byrnes is doing her best to control her secret though. Moby says, “I know what Sarah Byrnes is doing. She has to have control because of how big this is. You don’t let something this big out unless you have it on a leash. It would eat you alive” (p.147). Think of a time in history when a world government has tried to control the release of information; tried to keep a leash on something “big.” Write the even down below and explain it in one or two sentences. You may need help from your parents for this.

THEME II

Define the following words:

Scarred – _____

Scared – _____

Sacred – _____

All three of these words have similar spellings and in some way relate to Sarah Byrnes. Describe how she fits each one of these definitions (excluding the scar on her face).

THEME III

There are several references in this chapter 10 to the perfect. Explain why Chris Crutcher would make references to this, when so many characters in the book do not have a very good life.

JOURNAL

How do the revelations in this chapter change or measure up to your predictions from the previous chapters. List three predictions you have made (either written down or just in your head) and show how they have changed or come true.

1: _____

2: _____

3: _____