

Name _____

Guided Reading Prompts for

Tears of a Tiger

(from Discussion Topics in novel index and SharonDraper.com/lessonsdetail and Mrs. Wagner)

1. This novel begins with a tragic accident – a fatal car crash caused by drinking and driving. The story is then told from the points of view of the group of friends involved.
 - a. How does this method of telling the story affect the reader?
 - b. What advantages or disadvantages does this method of narrative offer?
2. Many teenagers drink and then drive without thinking about the consequences.
 - a. How is Andy like many young people today?
 - b. How is he different?
3. **Pages 3 through 14:**
 - a. Name the characters we meet in these pages and write a brief description of each.
 - b. How do the boys end up drinking and driving and who is driving the car?
4. **Pages 15 through 22:**
 - a. What does B.J. pray for?
 - b. What is the topic of Rhonda's homework? Does she say that she cried when she heard the news? What does she feel?
 - c. What are the titles of the articles in the Hazelwood Herald? Which articles are related to each other in that they share a common topic? What is that topic?
5. **pages 23 through 34:**
 - a. What does Andy remember about the first time he sees Rob? Who was Rob's friend at the time?
 - b. What is Andy's punishment for drunk driving?
 - c. Who is Andy's girlfriend?
 - d. What does Gerald say he would get rid of if he could change the world?
6. **Pages 35 through 49:**
 - a. What is the name of the school that Hazelwood High plays in basketball?
 - b. Whose parents came to the game and what does Andy say about them? What does Andy say about his parents not coming to the game?
 - c. What is the name of the psychologist who sees Andy? Describe him.
 - d. What does Andy tell the psychologist about his parents?
7. **Pages 50 through 70:**
 - a. What does the title *Girl Problems*? Suggest this next chapter might be about? Predict.
 - b. Does Andy feel there is anyone he can talk to at school about how he feels?
 - c. What academic subject does Andy say he likes? What is his relationship with this teacher?

- d. Andy's poem on page 63 is titled "Hope". Do you think it tells the reader that Andy has hope? What do you think Andy is saying in his Poem?
- e. What is the subject of Keisha's poem? B.J.'s poem? Gerald's Poem?

8. Pages 71 through 94:

- a. What did Andy used to do with Rob during Christmas break?
- b. What does Andy say about his relationship with Keisha? And why do you think the psychologist ask him what he would do if Keisha weren't there for him?
- c. Paraphrase the discussion about black and white in these chapters.

9. Pages 95 through 109:

- a. What frightens Monty? How do those fears change when you are 17 years old according to Andy?
- b. Describe Andy's nightmare.
- c. In many ways, Andy's apology letter to Rob's parents seems like a thank you letter. Explain.

10. Pages 110 through 132:

- a. What decision is made between the psychologist and Andy at this visit?
- b. What does Keisha feel about friendship?
- c. What concerns does Ms. Blackwell discuss with Andy's father?
- d. From her diary entry, what does Keisha begin to feel about her relationship with Andy?

11. Pages 133 through 159:

- a. What happens to Andy and Keisha at the talent show?
- b. What is the tone of Andy's conversation with his mother?
- c. What do you see happening to Andy?
- d. What lies does Andy tell Coach?
- e. Do you think Andy's conversation with his father went well? Why or why not. What do you think about Andy's father?
- f. What happens in *Nighttime Cries of Desperation*? Who does Andy try to call without success?

12. Pages 160 – the end.

- a. The tiger seems to be a metaphor for Andy. How can you explain this similarity at this point in Andy's life?
- b. Who had asked the counselors for advice to help Andy?
- c. What is the theme (message) of Tyrone's letter to Andy? Gerald's letter? Marcus's letter? Rhonda's letter? Keisha's letter?
- d. Explain what you think Monty's last words to Andy mean - "*. . . I'll never forget that it's okay to put dragons in the jungle and tears on a tiger.*"

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