

S.A.G.E ***Reading***

NOTICE & NOTE,
LESSON 3- TOUGH QUESTIONS



Notice & Note, Lesson 3

- We've been noticing signposts while reading stories and books.



When you take a journey through a book, **STOP** & Notice the signposts!




We noticed:

Unexpected
Behavior

Aha! Moments

STOP and Notice & Note

When you're reading and the character asks himself a really difficult question...



Tough Questions

STOP and ask:

"What does this question make me wonder about?"

The answers will tell you about the conflict and might give you ideas about what will happen later in the story.

Today we will look for a new signpost:

*It's called **TOUGH QUESTIONS.***

Tough Questions!



- We all ask questions like "What's for dinner?", "Where are we going?" Etc. during a normal day. But those aren't Tough Questions!
- Tough Questions are hard questions that the character struggles to find answers to... at least for a little while.
- These point to an **Internal Conflict** the character might be facing.



Tough Questions

Tough questions are those questions we sometimes ask ourselves, or someone else, that seem at least for a while, not to have an answer.

An example of a tough question could be wondering:

-"How would I ever be able to get over this?" when someone the character loves dies.

Other examples of Tough Questions:



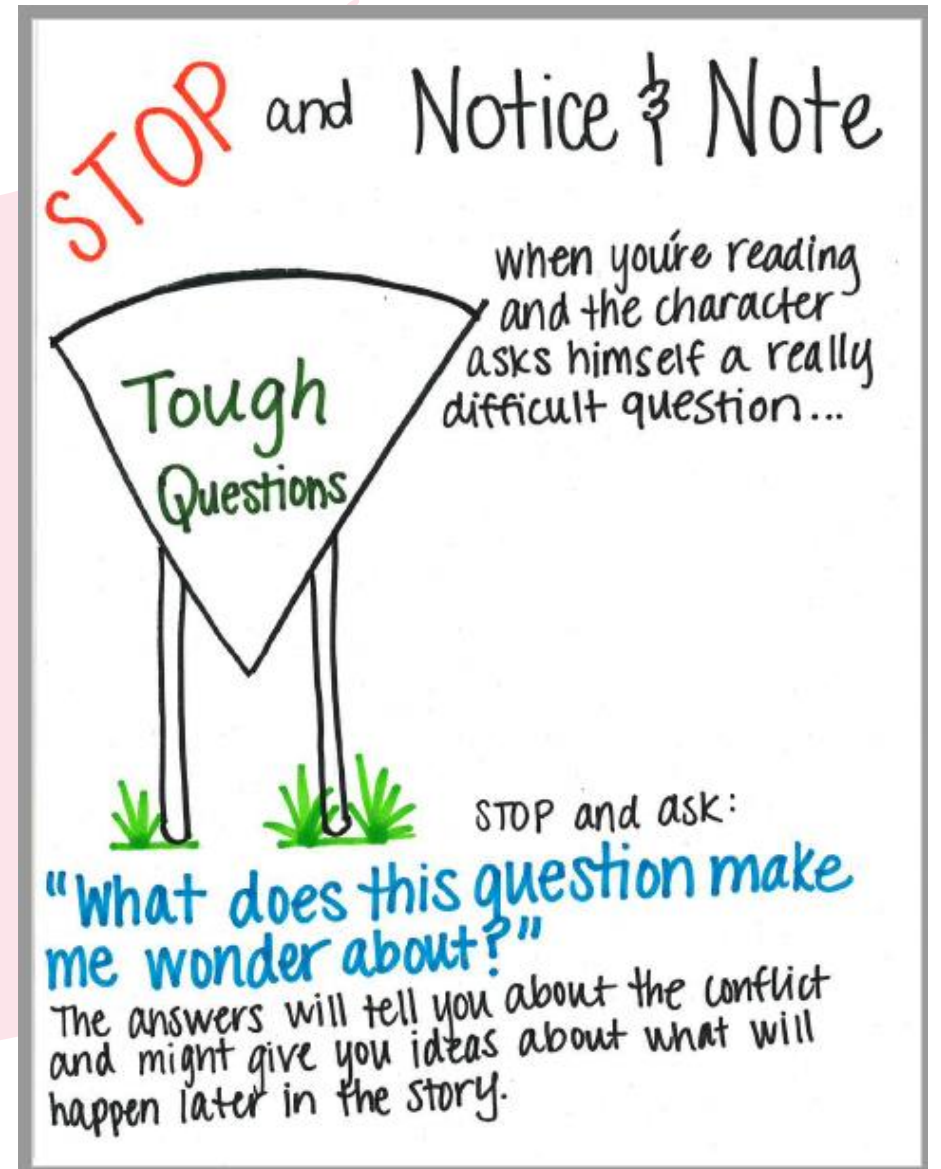
"What should I do?"
when facing an
impossible choice.

"Am I brave enough
to face this
challenge?" when
facing a big problem.

"Why does this always
happen to me?"
when something
terrible happens to
the character.

Some Characteristics of Tough Questions:

- TOUGH QUESTIONS ARE HARD TO ANSWER.
- THEY POINT TO AN INTERNAL CONFLICT.
- OFTEN THE MAIN CHARACTER ASKS A TRUSTED FRIEND THE QUESTION.
- OCCASIONALLY THE CHARACTER ASKS THEMSELVES THE QUESTION THAT IS BOTHERING THEM. IT MAY START WITH "I WONDER..."



Tough Questions Hunt:

We are going to read excerpts from the book, "A Long Walk to Water" by Linda Sue Park to identify places where this signpost occurs.

I will show the first one to you.

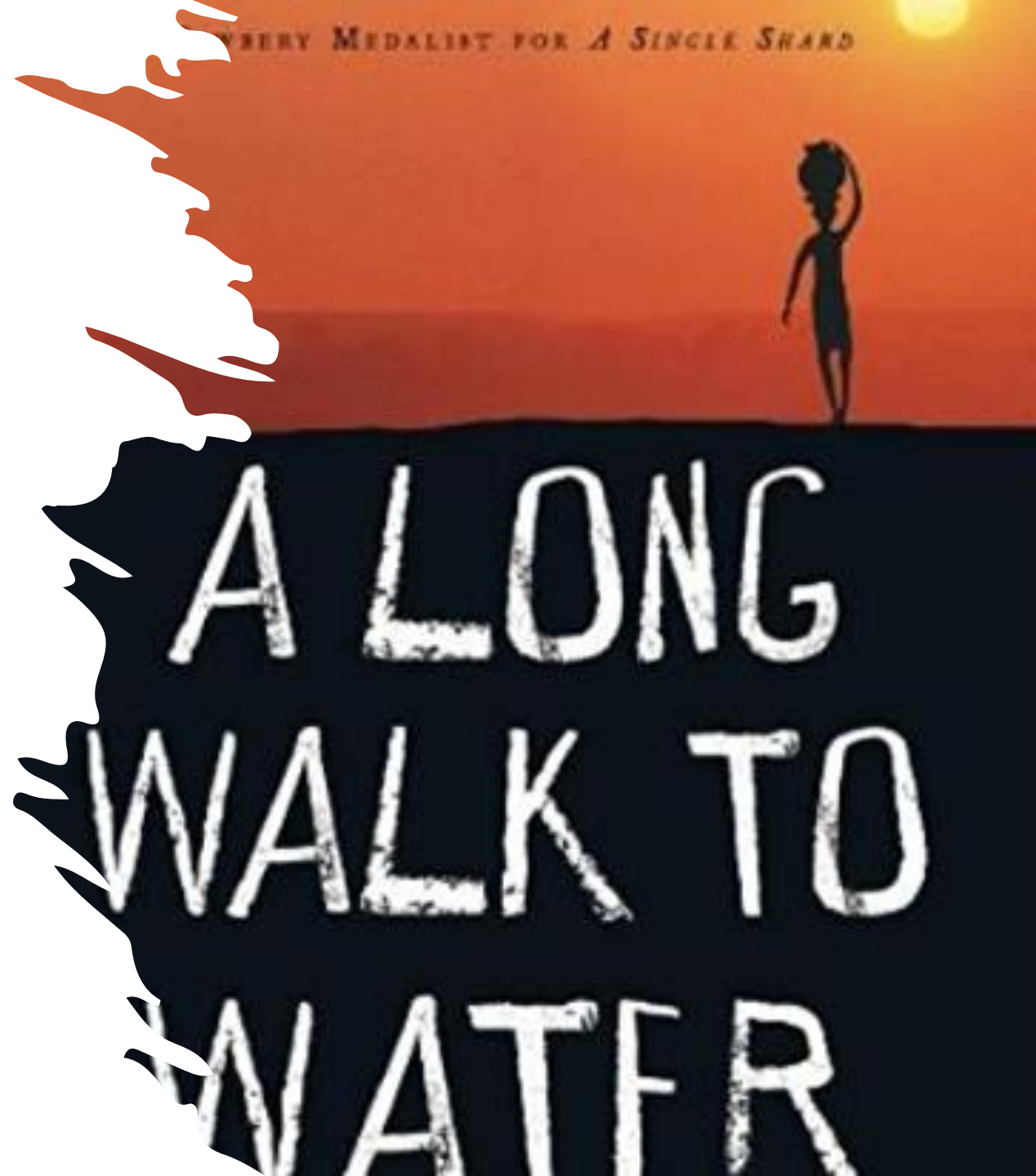
Can you find the second?



HERBY MEDALIST FOR A SINGLE SHARD

About the book, "A Long Walk to Water" by Linda Sue Park

- This is a book about what happened to an eleven-year-old boy who lives in Sudan during a time in which rebels are raiding villages.
- In a scene early in the novel, eleven-year-old Salva had become separated from the rest of his family after rebels have attacked his small Sudanese village, and he's now alone and scared and running.
- Let's read an excerpt.



Excerpt from the book:

Can you find the "Tough
Question?"

Salva lowered his head and ran.

He ran until he could not run anymore. Then he walked. For hours, until the sun was nearly gone from the sky.

Other people were walking, too. There were so many of them that they couldn't all be from the school village; they must have come from the whole area.

As Salva walked, the same thoughts kept going through his head in rhythm with his steps. *Where are we going? Where is my family? When will I see them again?*

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If you identified these as the "Tough Questions", you are correct.

For an eleven-year-old boy, these are obviously painful questions. They show me the conflicts-the problems-that character is worried about.

I want to ask myself, "What do these questions make me wonder about?" As I think about Salva's difficult questions and ask myself what they make me wonder about, I wonder if I could have survived without knowing where my family was or even if they were alive.

Let's read on. We're skipping ahead in the story to point where Salva, who has been on his own for a while, finds a small group of people who are trying to survive.

Can you find the tough question in this excerpt? Can you also fill in the box to tell me what it made you wonder about?

The 'Tough Question made me wonder:

There were now three women giving water to the men on the ground.

Like a miracle, the small amounts of water revived them. They were able to stagger to their feet and join the group as the walking continued.

But their five dead companions were left behind. There were no tools with which to dig, and besides, burying the dead men would have taken too much time.

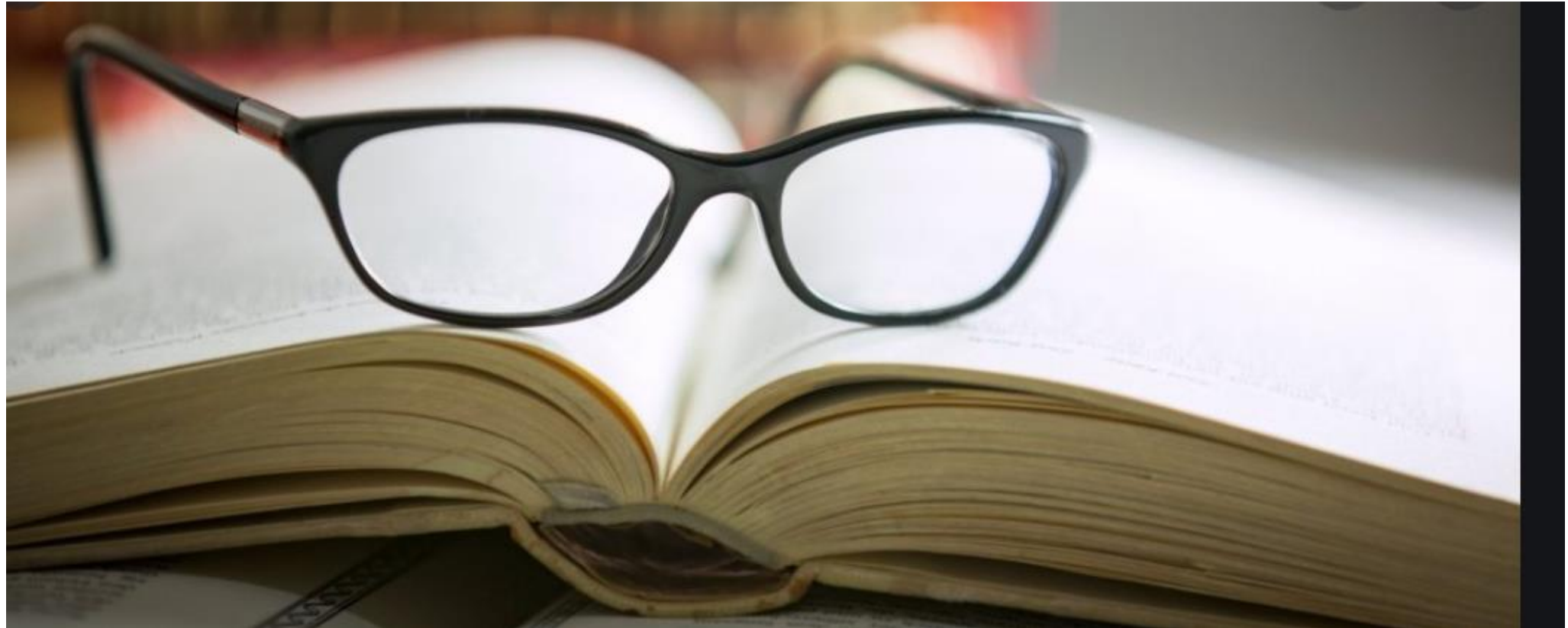
Salva tried not to look as he walked past the bodies, but his eyes were drawn in their direction. He knew what would happen. Vultures would find the bodies and strip them of their rotting flesh until only the bones remained. He felt sick at the thought of those men—first dying in such a horrible way, and then having even their corpses ravaged.

If he were older and stronger, would he have given water to those men? Or would he, like most of the group, have kept his water for himself?

It was the group's third day in the desert. By sunset, they would be out of the desert, and after that, it would not be far to the Itang refugee camp in Ethiopia.

As you read the books you are reading at home, identify one instance where a character in the book encountered a "Tough Question".

Then write down what it made you wonder about? You can use the next slide if you want.



***An Example of "Tough Question" that
you I found in a book I was reading:***

