



SAGE Reading

NOTICE & NOTE

LESSON 1.

Readers notice signs along their reading journey!

WHEN YOU ARE READING A BOOK,
IT'S LIKE YOU ARE ON A JOURNEY.



SOME READERS BECOME VERY GOOD AT
NOTICING IMPORTANT SIGNPOSTS WHILE
THEY ARE READING.

THIS MAKES THEM **STOP, THINK,** AND
MAKE A NOTE ON WHY THEY THINK THAT
SIGN EXISTS.

Noticing the beats/ signpost of a story.

My friend (I will call her M) was insufferable to read with. Anytime we were reading books together, she would guess what is going to happen pages ahead.

Sometimes she would even spoil the ending for me.

It was VERY annoying.

Only much later in life (like this year), I realized she was just very good at noticing the signposts of a story, thinking about it, and then making an educated guess.

So in these coming weeks, I am going to teach you how to notice the signs too...

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Just don't spoil stories for everyone else!)

Most Common Signposts

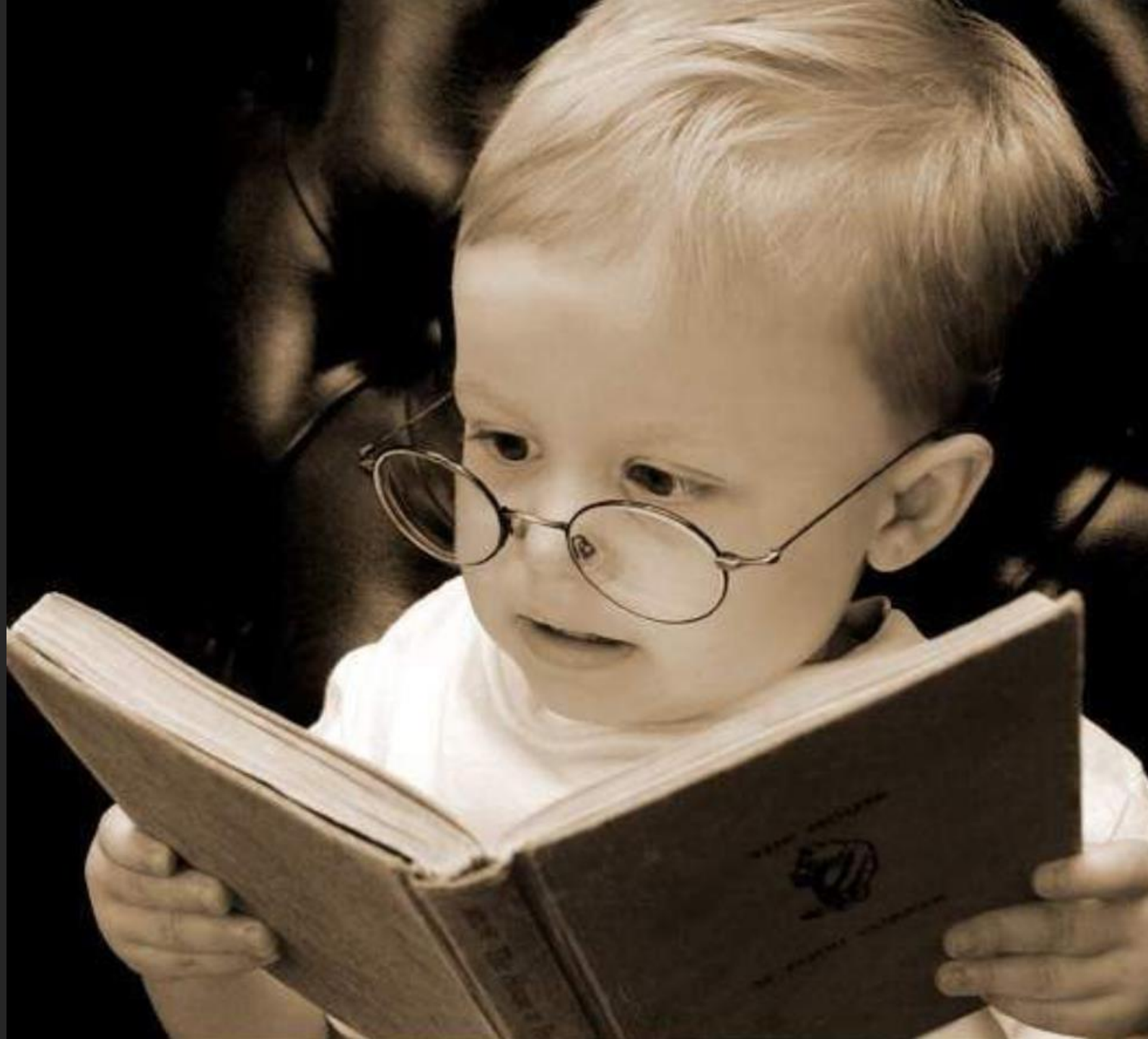
Here are some common signposts you can notice while you are reading a book!

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



Signpost 1: Unexpected Behavior

The Signpost we will talk about this week is called "Unexpected Behavior".



STOP & Notice!

When a character says or does something unexpected or out of the ordinary, ask yourself:

Why would the character act that way?



This helps us:

- think about the plot and conflict.
 - predict what might happen.
-

Signpost 1: Unexpected Behavior

When authors show us a character reacting in a way that is unexpected, then it is time to pause and ask ourselves, "Why would the character act this way?"

The answer can help us figure out:

- Predict what might happen
- Character Development
- Figure out Plot and Conflict

STOP & Notice!

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THANK YOU MA'AM

BY LANGSTON HUGHES

MENTOR TEXT: THANK
YOU, MA'AM

- LANGSTON HUGHES

- 1) First read it to yourself.
- 2) Read it again thinking about the characters. Every place a character does something unexpected highlight it in the story using the highlighter at the bottom of the page.
- 3) On the next page type out
 - a. What that character did that was unexpected
 - b. Why you feel it was unexpected
 - c. Why you think they did it

(Find AT LEAST 4 places to highlight. I personally found 6)

4) Reread your answers and check to make sure they have capitals, periods, and make sense.

When you are done remember to click the green check mark in the right hand corner to submit your work.

THANK YOU, MA'M

by Langston Hughes

She was a large woman with a large purse that had everything in it but a hammer and nails. It had a long strap, and she carried it slung across her shoulder. It was about eleven o'clock at night, dark, and she was walking alone, when a boy ran up behind her and tried to snatch her purse. The strap broke with the sudden single tug the boy gave it from behind. But the boy's weight and the weight of the purse combined caused him to lose his balance. Instead of taking off full blast as he had hoped, the boy fell on his back on the sidewalk and his legs flew up. The large woman simply turned around and kicked him right square in his blue-jeaned sitter. Then she reached down, picked the boy up by his shirt front, and shook him until his teeth rattled.

After that the woman said, "Pick up my pocketbook, boy, and give it here."

She still held him tightly. But she bent down enough to permit him to stoop and pick up her purse. Then she said, "Now ain't you ashamed of yourself?"

Firmly gripped by his shirt front, the boy said, "Yes'm."

The woman said, "What did you want to do it for?"

The boy said, "I didn't aim to."

She said, "You a lie!"

By that time two or three people passed, stopped, turned to look, and some stood watching.

"If I turn you loose, will you run?" asked the woman.

"Yes'm," said the boy.

"Then I won't turn you loose," said the woman. She did not release him.

"Lady, I'm sorry," whispered the boy.

"Um-hum! Your face is dirty. I got a great mind to wash your face for you. Ain't you got nobody home to tell you to wash your face?"

"No'm," said the boy.

"Then it will get washed this evening," said the large woman, starting up the street, dragging the frightened boy behind her.

He looked as if he were fourteen or fifteen, frail and willow-wild in tennis shoes and blue jeans.

The woman said, "You ought to be my son. I would teach you right from wrong. Least I can do right now is to wash your face. Are you hungry?"

"No'm," said the being-dragged boy. "I just want you to turn me loose."

"Was I bothering you when I turned that corner?" asked the woman.

"No'm."

"But you put yourself in contact with me," said the woman. "If you think that contact is not going to last awhile, you got another thought coming. When I get through with you, sir, you are going to remember Mrs. Luella Bates Washington Jones."

Sweat popped out on the boy's face and he began to struggle. Mrs. Jones stopped, jerked him around in front of her, put a half-nelson about his neck, and continued to drag him up the street. When she got to her door, she dragged the boy inside, down a hall, and into a large kitchenette-furnished room at the rear of the house. She switched on the light and left the door open. The boy could hear other roomers laughing and talking in the large house. Some of their doors were open, too, so he knew he and the woman were not alone. The woman still had him by the neck in the middle of her room.

She said, "What is your name?"

"Roger," answered the boy.

"Then, Roger, you go to that sink and wash your face," said the woman, whereupon she turned him loose—at last. Roger looked at the door—looked at the woman—looked at the door—and went to the sink.

"Let the water run until it gets warm," she said. "Here's a clean towel."

"You gonna take me to jail?" asked the boy, bending over the sink.

"Not with that face, I would not take you nowhere," said the woman. "Here I am trying to get home to cook me a bite to eat, and you snatch my pocketbook! Maybe you ain't been to your supper either, late as it be. Have you?"

"There's nobody home at my house," said the boy.

"Then we'll eat," said the woman. "I believe you're hungry—or been hungry—to try to snatch my pocketbook!"

"I want a pair of blue suede shoes," said the boy.

"Well, you didn't have to snatch my pocketbook to get some suede shoes," said Mrs. Luella Bates Washington Jones. "You could of asked me."

"Ma'm?"

The water dripping from his face, the boy looked at her. There was a long pause. A very long pause. After he had dried his face and not knowing what else to do, dried it again, the boy turned around, wondering what next. The door was open. He would make a dash for it down the hall. He would run, run, run!

The woman was sitting on the day bed. After a while, she said, "I were young once and I wanted things I could not get."

There was another long pause. The boy's mouth opened. Then he frowned, not knowing he frowned.

The woman said, "Um-hum! You thought I was going to say but, didn't you? You thought I was going to say, but I didn't snatch people's pocketbooks. Well, I wasn't going to say that." Pause. Silence. "I have done things, too, which I would not tell you, son—neither tell God, if He didn't already know. Everybody's got something in common. Sit you down while I fix us something to eat. You might run that comb through your hair so you will look presentable."

In another corner of the room behind a screen was a gas plate and an icebox. Mrs. Jones got up and went behind the screen. The woman did not watch the boy to see if he was going to run now, nor did she watch her purse, which she left behind her on the day-bed. But the boy took care to sit on the far side of the room, away from the purse, where he thought she could easily see him out of the corner of her eye if she wanted to. He did not trust the woman

to trust him. And he did not trust the woman not to trust him. And he did not want to be mistrusted now.

"Do you need somebody to go to the store," asked the boy, "maybe to get some milk or something?"

"Don't believe I do," said the woman, "unless you just want sweet milk yourself. I was going to make cocoa out of this canned milk I got here."

She heated some lima beans and ham she had in the icebox, made the cocoa, and set the table. The woman did not ask the boy anything about where he lived, or his folks, or anything else that would embarrass him. Instead, as they ate, she told him about her job in a hotel beauty shop that stayed open late, what the work was like, and how all kinds of women came in and out, blondes, red-heads, and Spanish. Then she cut him half of her ten-cent cake.

"Eat some more, son," she said.

When they finished eating, she got up and said, "Now here, take this ten dollars and buy yourself some blue suede shoes. And, next time, do not make the mistake of latching onto my pocketbook nor nobody else's—because shoes got by devilish ways will burn your feet. I got to get my rest now. But from here on in, son, I hope you will behave yourself."

She led the way down the hall to the front door and opened it. "Good night! Behave yourself, boy!" she said, looking into the street as he went down the steps.

The boy wanted to say something other than "Thank you, Ma'm," to Mrs. Luella Bates Washington Jones, but although his lips moved, he couldn't even say that, as he turned at the foot of the barren stoop and looked up at the large woman in the door. Then she shut the door. And he never saw her again.

Text Response

- 1) What did the character do that was unexpected?
- 2) Why was it unexpected?
- 3) Why do YOU think they did it?

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