



Jacked

Carrie Mac

Reading level: 3.0

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AR Quiz # 133328

Book Summary

When Zane is held at gunpoint and forced to drive to an unknown destination, fear and the desire to escape control his thoughts. But as he spends time with his kidnapper, Zane realizes that there is something familiar about the madman holding him hostage. Once Zane puts the voice with what he sees under the ski mask, the two acquaintances work together to achieve a common goal that will not get either of them killed or land them in jail.

Prereading Idea

Copy the brief fact sheet at the following website to share with your students. After reading the article, either in part or whole, to your students, ask them to share stories they have heard or experiences they have had with carjacking.

www.crimedoctor.com/carjacking.htm

Connecting to the World—Writing and Research Ideas

- Based on their religious convictions, Sarita's family hates Carlyle and refuses to allow her to date him. In small groups or with a partner, ask students to investigate the dating and marriage practices of Islam. If possible, have students interview Muslim parents, children and leaders to get their point of view. Students can present their findings to the class and post findings on a bulletin-board display.
- Carlyle breaks the law from the moment he steals the gun. Then when Zane knows who he is and helps him on his mission to see Sarita, they both commit crimes. Ask students to make a list of the laws Zane and Carlyle break, both federal and state, and to find out what the potential punishment would have been had they been caught. Ask students to create a mock trial for the boys and have students be the attorneys, judge and jury members.
- Emotion runs strong in this story. With a partner, ask students to write a poem for two voices for one of the combinations of characters: Zane and Carlyle, Sarita's parents, Carlyle and Sarita, Carlyle and Sarita's uncle, the nurse and Carlyle, Mia and her mother, or any other two people. Poems should include both individual and unison lines of thought. Students can perform their poems for the class.

Connecting to the Text—Elements of the Novel*Theme*

A timeless theme in literature and movies is one of unrequited love—much like Sarita and Carlyle's relationship. Another famous couple kept apart by parents is Romeo and Juliet. Ask students to investigate other works that have this same theme. In each case, the setting, the plot, the resolution and the story may be different, but the theme and basic conflict will be the same. Students should make a list of titles and a chart of the above elements for each title they find that meets the theme of unrequited love. Display the charts in the classroom.

Characterization

Ask students to draw a positive/negative line graph of the events in Zane and Carlyle's lives and to review what happens to them. Ask students to determine how each boy changes during the novel because of their friendship. Students should make a list of each boy's characteristics in the first three chapters and another list of their characteristics in the last three chapters. Have students create a visual (poster, chart or 3-D display) to demonstrate the before vs. after aspects of each boy's character. Students must select appropriate quotes from the text to support each of the listed characteristics.

Conflict

Every story must have conflict to move the plot forward. Divide the class in half and give one half Carlyle and the other half Zane. Have each group make a list of the conflicts each boy must confront and determine if he resolves them or if he must live with the consequences. Have students draw a diagram or web of the conflicts and include individuals affected by the boys' conflicts, including each other.

Connecting to the Students—Discussion Questions

1. What possesses Carlyle to choose Zane to carjack? What risk does Carlyle take in stealing the gun and kidnapping Zane? Why is the risk worth the possible threat of jail?
2. Why does Zane's fear leave him at the gas station? What does watching tv have to do with the reality of Zane's situation? Why does he connect his lack of fear to watching too much tv?
3. Why is Carlyle willing to listen to Zane at the hospital? How does taking Zane's advice pay off for Carlyle? Why are Sarita's parents so opposed to Carlyle visiting Sarita?
4. Why do Mia's mother and the head nurse help Carlyle see Sarita? Does the visit with Carlyle make Sarita feel better? Why or why not?
5. Why do Sarita's parents finally allow Carlyle to visit Sarita in the hospital? Do they accept him as Sarita's boyfriend? Why or why not? Why doesn't Sarita have a voice in who she wants to date?
6. What do Zane and Carlyle gain from this crazy adventure? How does this adventure enrich both of their lives?

Writer's Craft**Vocabulary Enrichment**

After looking up the following words in the dictionary or thesaurus, have students find synonyms of the words and create synonym chains in the form of actual chains or flowcharts. Ask students to focus on nuances of degree and meaning. Then post the chains around the room. Example: *bickering, quarreling, arguing, fighting*

Impromptu	(ch. 1)	Shirk	(ch. 5)
Imminent	(ch. 7)	Bickering	(ch. 10)
Transgression	(ch. 15)		

Author Biography

Awarded a Canada Council for the Arts grant at age twenty-five for her first novel, **Carrie Mac** continues to write award-winning novels for young adults. She supports world citizenship through organizations such as War Child, Right To Play, and Doctors Without Borders. When Carrie Mac is not living in her imagination, she resides and writes in Pemberton, a small town nestled in the mountains north of Vancouver.