

THE EFFECT OF GAMMA RAYS ON MAN-IN-THE-MOON MARIGOLDS

Content Questions(A=Act, S=Scene)

1. Beatrice is on the phone. To whom is she talking? What is the problem being discussed? What is Beatrice's explanation of the problem? What seems to be her attitude toward the caller?(A.1,S. I)
2. Why does Tillie especially want to go to school today? What is her mother's reaction? What is her reason(s)?(A.1,S. I)
3. What is Tillie's speech about? What is her attitude toward the subject?(A.1,S. II)
4. What is Tillie planting? What is special about them? What is her mother's attitude toward them? How does Tillie react to her mother's attitude?(A.1,S. II)
5. "Science, science, science? Don't they teach our misfits anything anymore? Anything decent and meaningful and sensitive?" Beatrice says this. What is ironic about this statement?(A.1,S. II)
6. What is Janice Vickery's science project?(A.II,S. I)
7. Tillie gives Peter (the rabbit) to Ruth. Why?(A.II,S. I)
8. "If you're just a little bit different in this world, they try to kill you off." (See page 84) Is it true? Is it true of the characters in the play? Consider Tillie, Ruth, Beatrice, and Nanny.(A.II,S.1)
9. While the girls are at the science assembly, what things does Beatrice do? (Name three or more specific things.) Why does she do them?(AII,S.III)
10. Describe Tillie's experiment. What are the results of it? Be specific.(A.II,S.IV)
11. What has Beatrice done to the rabbits? Why? Was this foreshadowed?(A.II,S.V)
12. What was Beatrice's final comment in the play? Why does she say this? Is this statement true for her?(A.II,S.V)

Discussion Questions

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1. Is the play optimistic or pessimistic?
2. Why does Zindel include a character like Nanny in the play? She has no lines. Explain what purpose she serves.

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